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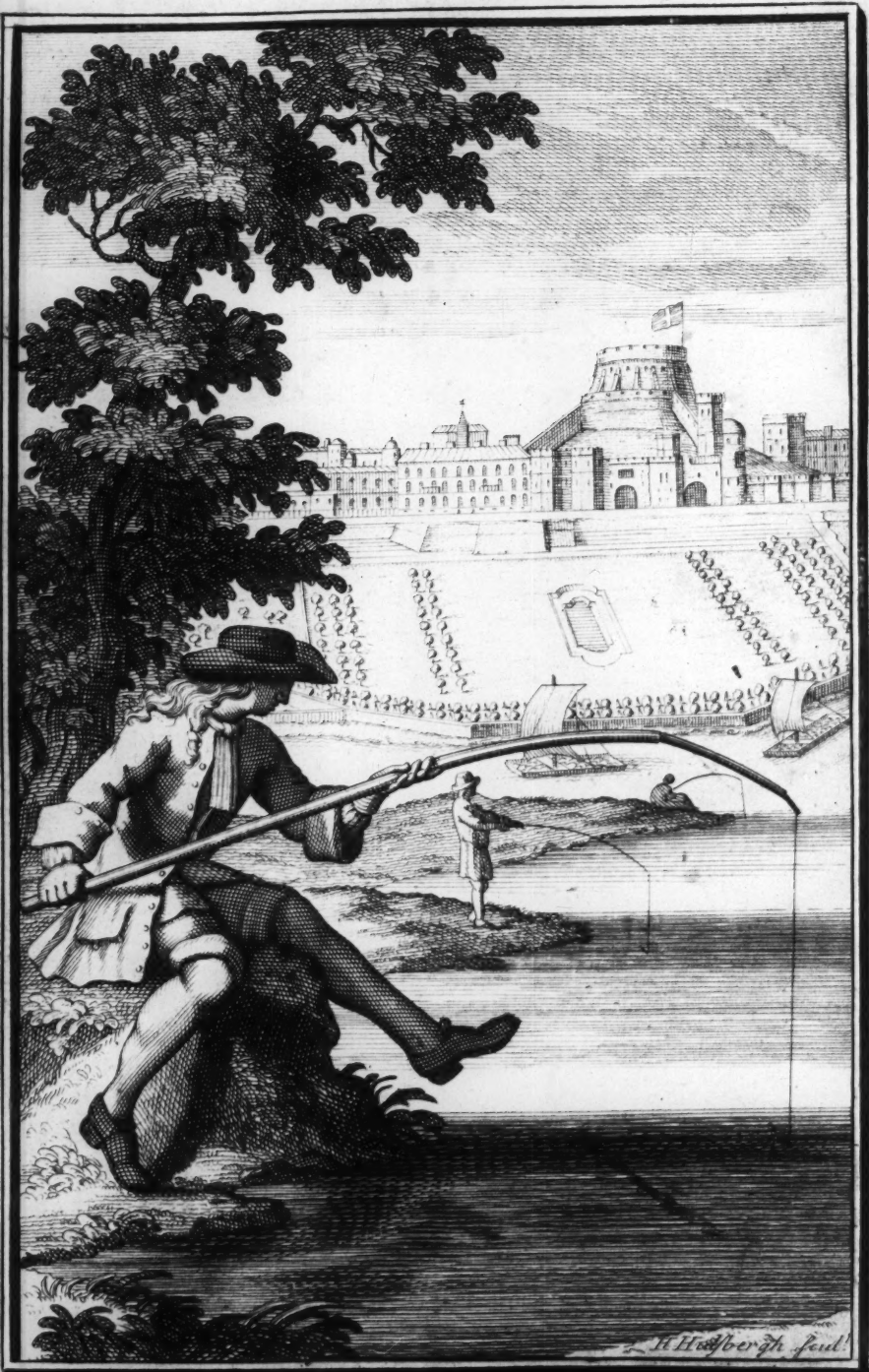
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THE
Whole ART
OF
FISHING.
BEING

A COLLECTION and IMPROVEMENT
of all that has been written upon
this SUBJECT: with many *New*
Experiments.

SHEWING
The Different Ways of ANGLING, and the
best METHODS of taking Fresh-water
FISH.

To which is added,
The LAWS of ANGLING.

In genial Spring, beneath the quiv'ring Shade,
Where cooling Vapours breathe along the Mead,
The patient *Fisher* takes his silent Strand
Intent, his *Angle* trembling in his Hand:
With Looks unmov'd, he hopes the *Scaly Breed*,
And eyes the dancing *Cork* and bending *Reed*,
Our plenteous Streams a various Race supply;
The bright-ey'd *Perch* with Fins of *Tyrizian* Dye,
The Silver *Eel*, in shining Volumes roll'd,
The yellow *Carp*, in Scales bedropp'd with Gold,
Swift *Trouts*, diversify'd with Crimson Stains,
And *Pikes*, the Tyrants of the watry Plains.

POPE's *Windsor Forest*.

L O N D O N,
Printed for E. CURLL, at the Dial and Bible against St.
Dunstan's Church in Fleet-street. 1714.
Price 2 s. or 2 s. 6 d.

Aug 17.14

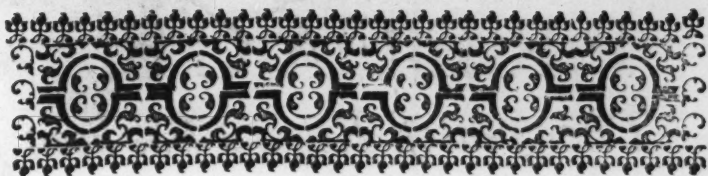
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17 Nov. 1892.

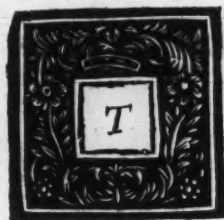
Gift of

JOHN BARTLETT.

of Cambridge



PREFACE.



HIS Treatise is a Collection of all that has been writ upon the Subject of FISHING, digested in a better Method than any before extant, and cleansed from all superfluous and useless Observations, for very few Writers on this Head have forbore some favourite Impertinence of their own, which they generally stile Curious.

The

P R E F A C E.

*The greatest Regard has been had to Mr. WALTON, Mr. COTTON, and the two * Pieces usually subjoined to their Performances, tho' we have not failed consulting others upon proper Occasions.*

Mr. WALTON, a very good Judge of these Matters, declares, † He never saw any Treatise before his time of this nature, that deserved the Perusal.

The great Fault that runs thro' all the Common Books, is the inserting of Receipts for

* The Experienced Angler; and, The Art of Trowling.

† See, the Dedication to the Complete Angler.

Dressing

P R E F A C E.

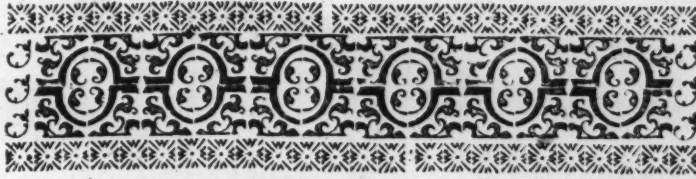
Dressing Fish, and numerous Directions to make Tackle, both which are now so perfectly known to Artists, that little needs be said upon that Part of Fishing.

This Book avoiding all trifling Niceties, sticks close to the Matter, and rather more to the Practice of the Art, than the Theory; the Fisherman will here find, the Nature, Haunts, Times of Biting, the Baits, the Seasons of Spawning, and the Method of taking his Prey. And if my Pains shall excite any Brother Angler to communicate his own Observations, he
is

PREFACE.

is desired to direct them to the Bookseller, and they shall be acknowledged in what manner soever the Person pleases. And I do not doubt but the Favourers of the Art will pardon my Faults, and endeavour to correct them by this Means, that so we may have at last (if possible) a Complete Art of Fishing, tho' as Mr. WALTON observes, ' Angling may be said to be so like ' the Mathematicks, that it can ' never be fully learnt, at least not ' so fully, but that there will still ' be more New Experiments left ' for the Tryal of other Men ' that succeed us.

THE

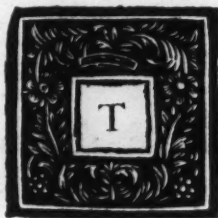


The Whole ART OF ANGLING.



C H A P. I.

Of the CHAVINDER, or CHUB.



THE CHUB likes sandy, or clay Bottoms, large Rivers, and shady Streams; but their chief Abode is in the Angles or deep Holes, where the Water runs not very quick; they thrive well in Ponds into which any Rivulet runs. His Biting-time is from

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Of the CHUB.

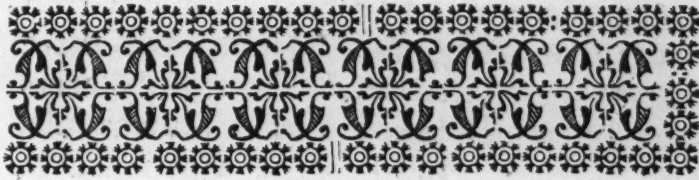
Sun-rising to 8 in the Morning, and from 3 in the Afternoon to Sun-set : He spawns in *March*, is in Season a Month after, and so continues from *Mid-May*, till after *Candlemas*. There is no Fish better to enter a young Angler, he is so easily caught, but then it must be this particular way : In most hot Days you will find a Dozen or Twenty *Chevins* floating near the Top of the Water ; place your self behind some Bush or Tree, and stand as free from Motion as possible ; bait your Hook with a *Grasshopper*, and let it hang a quarter of a Yard short of the Water ; to which end you must find some convenient Rest for your Rod, and it is likely the *Chubs* will sink down towards the bottom of the Water at the Shadow of the Rod (for a *Chub* is the fearfulest of Fishes) and will do so, if but a Bird flies over him, and makes the least Shadow on the Water : but they will presently rise, and lie soaring upon the Top again ; at which time move your Rod very slowly, to that *Chub* you intend to catch ; let your Bait fall gently upon the Water three or four Inches before him, and he will infallibly take it, for he is a Leather-mouth'd Fish (having his Teeth near his Throat) of which a Hook does
scarce

scarce ever lose its hold : And therefore give him play enough before you offer to take him out of the Water. There are many Baits to take a *Chub*, as a *Black Snail*, with his Belly slit to shew his White, or a piece of soft *Cheese* is usual ; nay, sometimes a *Worm*, or any kind of *Fly*, as the *Ant Fly*, the *Flesh Fly*, or *Wall Fly*, or the *Dor*, or *Beetle*, or a *Bob*, which is a short white *Worm*, like to, but bigger than a *Gentle* ; or a *Cod*, or *Cafe Worm* ; any of these will do very well.

This is farther to be observed of *Chub-Fishing* ; that in *March* and *April*, he is usually taken with *Worms*, in *May*, *June*, and *July* he will bite at *Cherries*, or any *Fly*, or at *Beetles*, with their Legs and Wings cut off, or at any kind of *Snail*, or at the *Black Bee* that breeds in *Clay Walls* ; and he never refuses a *Grashopper* on the Top of a swift Stream, nor at the bottom the young humble *Bee*, that breeds in long *Grass*, and are ordinarily found by the *Mowers* in *August* ; and in the cooler Months a yellow *Paste*, made of the strongest *Cheese*, and pounded in a Mortar with a little *Butter* and *Saffron* (so much of it as being beaten small will turn it to a *Lemmon* Colour). Some make

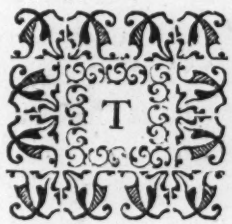
a *Paste* with *Cheese* and *Turpentine*, for the Winter Months, at which time the *Chub* is accounted best (for then it is observed that the forked Bones are lost, or turned into a kind of Gristle) He will bite also at a *Minnow* or *Penk*, and in hot Weather he is to be fished for towards the Mid-water, or nearer the Top; and in colder Weather nearer the Bottom. And if you fish for him on the Top, with a *Beetle*, or any *Fly*, then be sure to let your Line be very long, and to keep out of sight. The Spawn of a *Chub* is Excellent, his Head the best part of him, and after he is taken, cannot be too soon dressed. I will say no more of this Fish at the present, but my next Observation and Direction shall be concerning the *Trout* (which I love to angle for above any Fish) and the different ways of taking him.





C H A P. II.

*Of the Nature and Breeding of the
TROUT, &c.*



THE TROUT is a Fish highly valued both in this, and Foreign Nations; he feeds clean and purely, in the swiftest Streams, and on the hardest Gravel, and may justly claim the Preference to all Fresh-Water Fish: he comes in, and goes out of Season with the *Buck*, and is usually in Perfection in the Month of *May*: He spawns about *October* or *November*, in some Rivers a little sooner or later, contrary to the natural Course of most other Fish, which spawn in warmer Weather, when the Sun hath rarified the Water, and fitted it for their Work of Generation.

As there be some barren *Does*, that are good in Summer, so there be some barren *Trouts* that are good in Winter, but there are not many that are so ; certain Waters there be which breed *Trouts* remarkable, both for their Number and Smalness : in some Brooks they breed to an incredible Number, and you may take 20 or 40 in an Hour, but none bigger than a *Gudgeon* ; There are also in divers Rivers, especially that relate to, or be near the Sea (as *Winchester*, or the *Thames* about *Windsor*) a little *Trout*, called a *Samlet* or *Skegger-Trout*, that will bite as fast and as freely as *Minnows* ; these are by some taken for young *Salmons*, but in those Waters they never grow to be bigger than a *Herring*.

The *Trouts* taken at *Fordwich* near *Canterbury*, are reckoned the nicest of *Fish*, many of them near as large as a *Salmon*, but distinguished by their different Colour, and in their best Season cut very white ; and were but once known to be caught with an Angle, which was by Sir *George Hastings*, who told me he thought that *Trout* bit for Wantonness not Hunger ; for those that have dissected them, have been of Opinion, that their only Sustenance was the fresh Water : these *Trouts* remain 9 Months

Months in the Sea, and Annually observe their coming into the fresh Water almost to a Day, wherein they continue about 3 Months.

The *Bull-Trouts* in *Northumberland*, are of a much greater Length and Bigness, than any in the Southern Parts; and in many Rivers that relate to the Sea, there are *Salmon-Trouts* very different from others, both in their Shape and Spots.

Sir *Francis Bacon* has observed in his *History of Life and Death*, that as the *Trout* is of a more sudden Growth, so he is shorter lived than several other Fish. When he comes to his full Growth, he declines in his Body, but keeps his Bigness, or thrives only in his Head till his Death. About, or before the Time of his Spawning, he will get almost miraculously through *Mills*, *Weirs* and *Flood-gates* against the Stream, and pass such high and swift Places as is almost incredible.

He continues many Months out of Season, and most other Fishes recover Strength, and grow sooner fat than the *Trout* does: till the Sun gets to such a Height to warm the Earth and Water, the *Trout* is sick, lean, lousie, and unwholsom: For you shall in Winter find him to have a big Head, and

then to be lank, thin, and lean ; at which Time many have sticking on them *Sugs*, or *Trout-Lice*, which is a kind of Worm shaped like a *Clove* or *Pin* with a big Head, which sticks close to him and sucks his Moisture ; those I think the *Trout* breeds himself, and never thrives till warm Weather comes, and then as he grows stronger, he gets from the dead still Water, into the sharp Streams and Gravel, and there rubs off these Vermin, and as he gathers more Strength, gets into the swifter and rapid Streams, and there lies upon the Watch for any *Fly* or *Minnow*, that comes near him, especially he loves the *May-Fly*, which is bred of the *Cod-Worm* or *Caddis* ; these make him bold and lusty ; the best *Trouts* are either Red or Yellow, tho' some are White, and yet good, but those rarely found : The Female *Trout* has a less Head, deeper Body, and is usually better Meat than the *Male*. 'Tis observed that a Hog Back, and a little Head to any Fish, either *Trout*, *Salmon* or other, is a Sign that such Fish are in Season.

There are several kinds of *Trouts*, tho' they all go under that general Name, which differ in their Bigness, Shape, and Colour, in some Rivers they are sooner in Season,

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Of the TROUT.

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Season, in others longer before they go out of Season. There is a kind of small *Trout*, which will never come to any Bigness, but breed much more than those of a larger Size.

Directions how to fish for the TROUT, and of Artificial Minnows and Flies.

THE TROUT is usually caught with a *Worm*, a *Minnow*, or a *Fly*, either Natural or Artificial ; concerning which Three I shall give some Observations and Directions.

1. There are many Sorts of *Worms*, which breed in the Earth, among Plants, out of the Excrements, or in the Bodies of living Creatures, some from Carrion, as the *Maggot*, *Gentle* and others. Now these are particularly good for particular Fishes : but for the *Trout* the *Dew* or *Lob-worm*, and *Brandling* are the chief ; and especially the first for a Great *Trout*, the *Squirrel-tailed Lob-worm*, with a red Head, streaked Back, and broad Tail, are reckoned to be the best, being the toughest, most lively, and live longest in the Water ; the *Brandling* is usually found in an old Dunghill, or some very rotten Place near it, but most commonly

monly in *Cow*, or *Hogs*, rather than *Horfe-Dung*, which is too hot and dry for that *Worm*. The best of them are to be found in the *Tanners-Bark*, which they cast up in *Heaps* after they have used it about their *Leather*. Divers other *Kinds* of *Worms* there be, which for *Colour* and *Shape* alter even as the *Ground* out of which they are taken, as the *Marsh-worm*, the *Tag-tail*, the *Stag-worm*, the *Dock-worm*, the *Oak-worm*, the *Gilt-tail*, the *Twachel* or *Lob-worm* (which of all others is the most excellent *Bait* for a *Salmon*) with many more too numerous to recite; what *Worms* soever you fish with, are the better for being long kept before they be used; but if you have not been so provident, the most expeditious *Way* to cleanse and scour them, if *Lob-worms*, is to put them all *Night* in *Water*, and in the *Morning* into a *Bag* with *Fennel*: but the *Brandlings* must not be kept above an *Hour* in *Water*, before you put them into *Fennel* for immediate *Use*: but if you have *Time*, and intend to keep them long, they will be best preserved in an earthen *Pot* with good *Store* of *Moss*, which must be freshened twice a *Week* in *Summer*, and once in the *Winter*, or at least the *Moss* taken from them, and clean wash-

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Of the TROUT.

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washed, wrung dry, and so put to them again. If your *Worms*, especially the *Brandling* begins to be sick, and decay, you may recover him, by dropping the Quantity of a Spoonful of Milk or Cream into the *Moss*; and if there be added, an Egg beaten and boiled in the Cream, it will both fatten, and preserve them long. If the *Knot* near the Middle of the *Brandling* begins to swell, then he is sick, and if not looked to will soon die. Of *Moss* there be divers Kinds, which I could name, but will only tell you, that which is like a *Bucks-Horn* is the best, except it be *white Moss*, which grows on some Heaths, but is difficult to find. In a very dry Time when you are put to an Extremity for Worms, Walnut-Tree Leaves squeezed into Salt-Water, and poured upon the Ground in the Night, where Worms were used to rise, will make them presently appear.

To bait your Hook with a *Worm*, so as to save Time, and prevent the loss of many a Hook; when you fish for a *Trout* with a running Line, (that is, by hand at the Ground) observe this Rule; If it be a big *Lob-worm*, Hook him somewhat above, and out again a little below the Middle: then draw the Worm above the Arming of your Hook,

Hook, (you must enter the Hook not at the Head, but at the Tail end of the Worm, that the Point may come out toward the Head) and put the Point again into the Head of the Worm, till it come near the Place where it first came out; then draw back that Part of the Worm which was above the Shank of your Hook, and so fish with it. But if you mean to fish with Two Worms, then put the second Worm on, before you turn back the Hook's Head of the first; you cannot lose above 2 or 3 Worms before you attain to this Way of fishing, which you'll find very useful, for you'll run on the Ground without Tangling.

When you fish for a Trout with a Worm, always let your Line be poized with Lead, suitable to the Stream in which you angle, and sufficient to sink the Bait to the Bottom, and keep it just in Motion, and not more.

2. I now proceed to the Minnow, or Penk, he is easily found and caught in March or April, for then he appears in the River, but Nature has taught him to shelter and hide himself in the Winter, in Ditches near the River, where he keeps himself warm in the Mud or Weeds, which rot not so soon as in a running River, wherein if he took up his Winter Residence, the dif-

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Of the TROUT.

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stempered Floods of that Season would not permit him to take any Rest, but carry him headlong to *Mills and Weirs*, to his Confusion. Of these *Minnows* the biggest are not the best; but those that are the whitest of the middle Size: The *Minnow* must be so put on your Hook as to turn round when 'tis drawn against the Stream; and that it may turn nimbly, you must thus place it on a large sized Hook. Put it in at his Mouth, and out at his Gill; then having drawn it 2 or 3 Inches beyond or through his Gill, put it again into his Mouth, and the Point and Beard out at his Tail; then tie the Hook and his Tail about very neatly with a white Thread, which will make it the apter to turn quick in the Water: This done, so pull back that part of your Line which was slack, when you hook the *Minnow* the second time, that it shall fasten the Head, then the Body of the *Minnow* will be almost strait on your Hook; afterwards try how it will turn by drawing it cross the Water, or against a Stream, if it do not turn nimbly, move the Tail a little to the right or left, and try again till it does; for it is impossible that it should turn too quick. In Case you want a *Minnow*, a small *Loach*, a *Stickle-back*, or any other little Fish will

will serve as well, and by salting them, they will keep near a Week, for this Use *Bay-Salt* is best.

At some time, and in some Waters a *Minnow* is not to be got, and therefore an Artificial one will catch a *Trout*, as well as an Artificial *Fly*: and if well made, will beguile the most sharp sighted *Trout* in a swift Stream, and are of excellent Use, for a large *Trout* will come as fiercely at a *Minnow*, as the highest mettle *Hawk* doth seize a *Partridge*, or a *Greyhound* a *Hare*.

How to make an Artificial Minnow.

The Body must be of Cloth, wrought upon the Back with dark-coloured Green Silk, and a paler Green towards the Belly, shaded as naturally as possible, and wrought upon the Belly with white Silk in one part, and Silver Thread in another; the Tail and Fins must be made of a Quill thinly shaven, and the Eyes of two little black Beads. The Ladies are the properest Operators for this Piece of Needle-Work, and I know some very dexterous at it, who always have a live Minnow lying by them for a Pattern.

3. The next Bait wherewith *Trouts* are usually taken, are *Flies*, of which there are

Of the TROUT.

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are many sorts, as the *Dun-Fly*, *Stone-Fly*, *Red-Fly*, *Moor-Fly*, *Tawny-Fly*, *Shell-Fly*, *Flag-Fly*, *Vine-Fly*, the *cloudy* or *blackish* *Fly*, *Canker-Fly*, and *Bear-Fly*, &c. The *Caterpillar*, or *Palmer-Fly*, or *Worm*, are often used.

Of Artificial Flies, and how to make them.

There are of these, twelve kinds made to angle with upon the Top of the Water, and are most proper to be used in a windy Day, when the Waters are so disturbed that the natural *Fly* cannot be seen, or rest upon them.

1. The first is the *Dun Fly* in *March*, the Body is made of *Dun Wooll*, the Wings of a *Partridge's* Feathers.

2d. Is another *Dun Fly*, the Body is made of *Black Wooll*, and the Wings of a *Black Drake's* Feathers.

3d. Is the *Stone Fly* in *April*, the Body is of *Black Wooll*, made yellow under the Wings and Tail, and so made with Wings of the *Drake*.

4th. Is the *Ruddy Fly*, in the beginning of *May*, the Body is made of *Red Wooll*, wrapt about with *Black Silk*, and the Feathers are the Wings of a *Drake*, with the
Fea-

Feathers of a red *Capon* also, which hang dangling on his sides next the Tail.

5th. Is the *Yellow* or *Greenish Fly*, in *May* likewise, the Body is made of *Yellow Wooll*, and the Wings of the red *Cock's Tail*.

6th. Is the *Black Fly* in *May* also, the Body is made of *Black Wooll*, and wrapt about with the Herle of a *Peacock's Tail*; the Wings are made of the Wings of a *Brown Capon*, with his *Blue Feathers* in his Head.

7th. Is the *fad Yellow Fly* in *June*, the Body is made of *Black Wooll*, with a yellow Lift on either side, and the Wings taken off; or the Wings of a *Buzzard*, bound with black braked Hemp.

8th. Is the *Moorish Fly*, the Body is made of *Dusky Wooll*, and the Wings of the Blackish Mail of the *Drake*.

9th. Is the *Tawny Fly*, good until the middle of *June*, the Body is made of *Tawny Wooll*, the Wings made contrary one against the other, of the whitish Mail of the wild *Drake*.

10. Is the *Wasp Fly* in *July*, the Body is made of *Black Wooll*, wrapt about with *Yellow Silk*, and the Wings made of *Drake's* or *Buzzard's Feathers*.

Of the TROUT.

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11th. Is the *Shell Fly*, good in *Mid-July*, the Body is made of *Greenish Wooll*, wrapt about with the Herle of a *Peacock's Tail*, and the Wings made of those of a *Buzzard*.

12th. Is the dark *Drake Fly*, good in *August*, the Body is made of *Black Wooll*, wrapt about with *Black Silk*; his Wings are made with the Mail of a *Black Drake* with a *Black Head*. Thus (says Mr. WALTON) have you a Jury of *Flies*, likely to betray and condemn all the *Trouts* in the River.

I shall next give some Directions for *Fly-fishing*: First, Let your Rod be light, and very gentle, I take the best to be of two Pieces, let not your Line exceed above 3 or 4 Hairs at most, especially within as many Links of the Hook, tho' in the upper Part of your Line you may fish a little stronger: but if you can attain to Angle with a single Hair, you'll find both more Sport, and Success. Let not your Line be too long, and before you begin to Angle, observe that the Wind be in your Back, and the Sun in your Face; then fish down the Stream, and carry the Point of your Rod downwards, by which the Shadow both of your self and Rod will be the least discerned by the Fish, for the Sight of any

C Shade

Shade startles them, and spoils your Sport.

In the Middle of *March*, or *April*, if the Weather be dark, or a little windy, or cloudy, the best fishing is with the *Palmer Worm*, this and the *May Fly* are the Ground of all *Fly Angling*, and are to be thus made.

First, *Arm your Hook, with the Line in the Inside of it, then take your Scissars and cut so much of a Brown Mallard's Feather as you think will make the Wings of it, having withall Regard to the Largeness or Smallness of your Hook, lay the out-most Part of the Feather next the Hook, and the Point of the Feather next the Shank of the Hook, then whip it 3 or 4 Times round with the same Silk with which your Hook was armed, and having fastened the Silk, take the Hackel of a Cock, or Capon's Neck, or a Plover's Top, which is best: Strip one side of the Feather, then take the Hackel, Silk, Crewel, Gold or Silver Thread, and fasten these at the Bent of your Hook below the Arming; then take the Hackel, the Silver or Gold Thread, and work it up to the Wings, removing your Fingers as you turn the Silk about the Hook, and strictly observing at every Turn, that what Materials soever you work with, lie right*
and

and neatly; when you have made the Head, fasten all, and then work your Hackel up to the Head, and make that fast: then with a Needle divide the Wing apart, and whip about with Silk cross Ways betwixt the Wings, then with your Thumb turn the Point of the Feather towards the Bent of your Hook, and work 3 or 4 Times about the Shank of it, then fasten.

I confess no Direction can well be given for the making of a *Fly*, yet these Rules, with a little Practice, will in some Degree help an ingenious Angler: but to see a *Fly* made by an Artist is the best teaching; likewise to walk by the River and observe, at what *Fly* the Trout leaps, then catching one of them, and being ready provided with a Bag of Materials, and then trying to make a *Fly* like it, tho' he miss at first, by a diligent Experience he will soon arrive at Perfection, and take a particular Pleasure in the Art of *Fly-Making*.

The South Wind is always accounted best for Angling, according to the old Rhiming Adage.

————— *When the Wind is South
It blows your Bait into a Fishes Mouth.*

The *East Wind* is reckoned the worst; but if the Day be cloudy, and not extream cold, let the Wind sit in what Corner it will, it can be no great hindrance; yet take this for a Rule, that 'tis best Angling on the *Lee-Shore*; for in Winter, the Fish lies, and swims nearer the Bottom, and in deeper Water, than in the Summer Time; and also nearer the Bottom in any cold Day, and then gets nearest the low side of the Water. When you fish with a *Fly*, let no part of your Line touch the Water but the *Fly* only, keep it constantly in Motion, and likewise keep moving your self down with the Stream.

So much for Art, now for the *Natural Fly*, the fishing with which is excellent, and affords much Pleasure; they are thus found; The *May Fly* usually in and about that Month near the River side, especially against Rain; the *Oak Fly* upon the But or Body of an *Oak* or *Ash*, from the Beginning of *May* to the End of *August*; 'tis a brownish *Fly* and easie to be found, standing generally with his Head downwards towards the Root of the Tree; the small *Black Fly* or *Hawthorn Fly*, is to be had on any *Hawthorn* Bush after the Fall of the Leaf; with these, a *Grasshopper*, and a short
Line,

Of the TROUT.

21

Line, you may *dape* or *dop*, still keeping your self out of Sight, you will certainly have Sport in a hot Day, if there be *Trouts*, but more especially in the Cool of the Evening.

There is *Night* as well as *Day fishing* for a *Trout*, and in the Night the best *Trouts* come out of their Holes; and the manner of taking them, is on the Top of the Water with a great *Lob* or *Garden Worm*, or rather two, which you are to fish with in a place where the Waters run somewhat quietly, for in a Stream the Bait will not be so well discerned. Draw your Bait over the Top of the Water to and fro, and if there be a good *Trout* in the Hole he'll take it, especially if the Night be dark: for then he is bold and lies near the Top of the Water, watching the Motion of any *Frog*, *Water-Rat*, or *Mouse* that swims betwixt him and the Sky, these he hunts after if he sees the Water but wrinkle, or move in one of these dead Holes, where the great old *Trouts* usually lie near to their Holds; the old *Trout* is both subtle and fearful, lies close all Day, and does not often stir out of his Hole, but lies in it as close in the Day, as the timorous *Hare* does in her *Form*; for the chief feeding of

both is seldom in the Day, but in the Night, and then the great *Trout* feeds very boldly. He is to be fished for with a large not a small Hook, let him have Time to gorge it, for he does not usually forsake it, as he oft will in the *Day-fishing*: and if the Night be not dark, fish after the same manner with an *Artificial Fly* of a light Colour: he will sometimes rise at a dead *Mouse*, a Piece of *Cloth*, or any Thing that seems to swim cross the Water; or to be in Motion. There is a great Difference in *Trouts*, tho' taken out of the same Grounds, for a *Trout* in one Meadow shall be white, faint, and very like to be lousie; and one taken out of the next Meadow shall be strong, red, lusty, and much better Meat: the *Trout* soon dies after he is caught.

In *Hampshire* where there are many swift, shallow, clear pleasant Brooks, well stored with *Trouts*, they use to catch them in the Night, by the light of a Torch, or Straw, which when they have discovered, they strike with a *Trout* Spear. This way they catch many, but I think it deserves not Approbation.

The *Trout's* biting Time, is from Sun-rising, till near 11 in the Morning, and from 2 in the Afternoon till Sun-set, but
9 in

Of the TROUT.

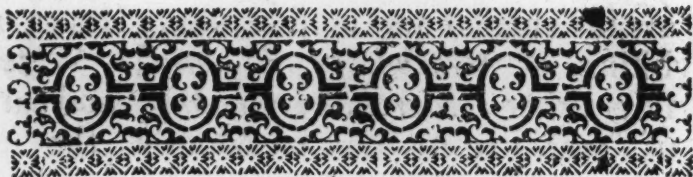
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9 in the Forenoon, and 3 in the Afternoon are his chiefest and most constant Hours of biting, at *Ground*, or *Fly*, as the Water suits either : *March*, *April*, *May*, and part of *June*, are his chiefest Months, tho' he bites well in *July*, *August*, and *September*.



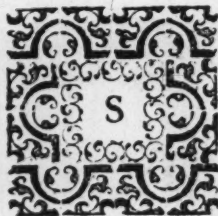
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C H A P.



C H A P. III.

Of the UMBER, or GRAYLING.



SOME are of Opinion that the UMBER and GRAYLING differ as the *Herring* and *Pilcher* do; But I think there is no other Difference but their Names. He is so like a *Trout* for his Shape and Feeding, that *Aldrovandus* reckons him of the *Trout* kind. *Gesner* says, that in *Switzerland* he is accounted the choicest Fish; and in *Italy*, in the Month of *May* he is sold at a much dearer Rate than any other Fish. The *French* whodespise the *Chub*, calling him *Un Villan*, stile him *Un Umble Chevalier*; setting so high a Value upon him, as to assert that he feeds on Gold, and affirm that many have been taken in their famous River of *Loyre* with Grains of Gold in their Bellies. Others will have it that he feeds on *Water Time*,
and

and retains the Smell of that Herb when he is taken out of the River; which Conjecture is as well grounded, as the common Opinion, that *Smelts* at their being first caught smell like Violets; but the Truth of these Fancies, is not my Purpose to dispute; but 'tis certain all that write of this Fish declare him to be very Medicinal. Much more might be said both of his Smell and Taste, tho' I shall now pass on to describe and direct the taking of him.

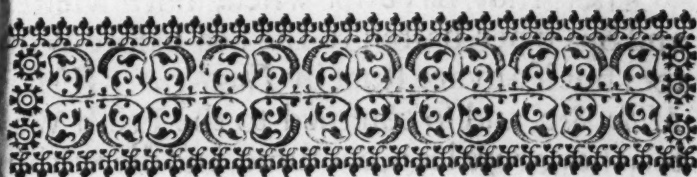
First, as to his Size, he never exceeds above 18 Inches, is good all the Year, but the principal Season is in *December*, at which time he is black about the Head, Gills, and down the Back, his Belly of a dark Grey, dappled with beautiful black Spots, is of a delicate Shape, his Flesh white, his Teeth are in his Throat, and his Mouth so tender that he often breaks Hold, therefore 'tis best Angling for him with two Hooks.

His Haunts are the same with those of the *Trout*, and he is usually taken with the same Baits, and after the same Manner: he'll bite at the *Fly*, *Worm*, or *Minnow*, tho' seldom at the latter, but is very gamefome at the former, being much simpler, and therefore bolder than the *Trout*; for he'll bite

bite 20 Times at a *Fly*, if you miss him, and yet rise again; he lurks close all the Winter, but about *Mid-April* swims very nimbly in the Middle of the Water, is then extremely active and brisk, but dead hearted after hooked; when you fish for him within Water, let not your Bait by any Means drag on the Ground, but keep it about 6 or 9 Inches from the Bottom, for he swimming equally betwixt the Water, lies always loose, and is more apt to rise than descend, even to a Ground Bait; therefore when you Angle particularly for him, use a Cork Float, rather than the running Line. To conclude, I cannot but think him much inferiour to the *Trout* either for Angling or Eating.



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C H A P. IV.

Of the SALMON.

THE SALMON is accounted the *King of Fresh-water Fish*, and always breeds in Rivers relating to the Sea, yet so high, or distant, as not to admit of any Salt or brackish Tincture; In most Rivers his spawning Time is the Month of *August*, when 'tis said, they dig a private Hole in the Gravel, and there leave their Eggs, which early in the following Spring become *Samlets* or *Salmon-Smelts*.

Mr. CAMDEN in his *Britannia* asserts, that in the River *Wye* in *Monmouthshire*, *Salmon* are in Season from *September* to *April*, but 'tis certain that in *Thames*, *Trent*, and most other Rivers, their Season is the fix hotter Months.

After

After they have spawned, both Melter and Spawner hasten to the Sea before Winter : but if any are stopt by *Flood-gates, Weirs, Mills, &c.* and so confined to the Fresh Water, they grow lean, consume, and die within a Year or two. And 'tis observed that those little *Salmons* called *Skeggers*, which abound in many Rivers relating to the Sea, are bred by those sick Fish which were detained in the *Fresh Water*, and tho' there be Plenty of them, they never thrive to any considerable Bigness. In the Summer they return again from Sea into the fresh Rivers where they fatten, the Sea only adding Largeness to their Growth. My Lord BACON in his *History of Life and Death* has fixed the *Salmon's* Period to Ten Years. He is a Fish of a very sudden Growth, the Melter is usually larger than the Spawner, but less able to endure a Winter Hardship in the *Fresh Water*.

The *Salmon* delights in swift violent Streams, and large Rivers, such as empty themselves into the Sea, especially such Waters as have pebbly, gravelly, and weedy Bottoms ; he is restless, coveting to get near the Spring Head, he swims in the deep broad Parts, and generally in the Middle of the Water, near the Ground, where

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where he is to be taken with the *Trout's* Bait. The *Samlets* commonly lie in the Middle of the rough and upper part of a gentle Stream. Their best biting time is 9 in the Forenoon, and 3 in the Afternoon in a clear Water, when the Wind blows moderately against the Stream, the only Months are from Mid-*April* to the end of *August*. Young *Salmons* are very tender mouthed as well as *Graylings*, and frequently lost by breaking Hold, therefore 'tis best fishing for them after the same Manner with Two Hooks.

He is to be caught with a *Minnow*, *Worm*, or *Fly*, tho' it's observed he seldom bites at the former, and not often at the latter, his only Bait being a *Lob* or *Garden Worm* well scoured; he also takes the same *Flies* as the *Trout*, and the *Natural* more readily than the *Artificial Fly*; when struck he falls to plunging and leaping, but does not endeavour to run to the End of the Line as the *Trout* will. Some use a Ring on the Top of their Rod, through which the Line may run to the utmost Extremity, tho' a Wheel about the Middle of the Rod, or nearer the Hand is much more convenient; at their first taking, especially during Life, they are very beautiful, being adorned with

with a Row of small round black Spots, along the Middle of each side from Head to Tail; They are of several sorts, and different Appellations, but for a nice Taste our *Thames Salmon* are reckoned to exceed those of any other Breed.

That famous Angler Mr. OLIVER HENLY, used to be more than ordinarily successful in the catching of *Salmons*, which I was told by an intimate Friend of his he attributed to the keeping of his Worms in a Box, anointed with the Oyl of *Ivy-Berries*, and by incorporating that Smell they became so irresistably attractive as to force any Fish within the Smell of them to bite.

These Two Receipts were likewise communicated to me by an excellent Angler.

1. *Take the stinking Oil drawn out of Polypody of the Oak by a Retort, mixt with Turpentine, and Hive Honey, with this anoint your Bait.*

2. *The Body of an Ivy Tree cut deep, sweats a sort of an Oily, Gummy Balsam, of a whitish Colour, and of a most pleasant Smell.*

This is very grateful to Fish, and yet *Assa Fetida* may do the same. I have no great

Of the SALMON. 31

great Faith in these Charms, but have been told by Sir GEORGE HASTINGS, and some other Chymical Gentlemen, that they will perform the Feat, but I must own I never tryed the Experiment.

I cannot leave the *Salmon* without taking notice of what has been universally admired, his wonderful leaping, from whence some fancy he is named, (*à Saliendo*.) Mr. CAMDEN takes particular notice of the *Catadoupa*, or Water-fall, vulgarly called the *Salmon-Leap*, at *Kilgarron* upon the River *Tivy* in *Pembrokeshire*, and the same is excellently described by MICHAEL DRAYTON * in the following Lines,

When as the *Salmon* seeks a fresher Stream to find,
(Which hither from the Sea comes yearly by his kind,
As he in season grows) and stems the watry Tract
Where *Tivy* falling down, doth make a Cataract,
Forc'd by the rising Rocks that there her course oppose,
Astho' within their Bounds they meant her to inclose;
Here, when the labouring Fish doth at the Foot arrive,
And finds that by his Strength but vainly he doth strive,
His Tail takes in his Teeth; and bending like a Bow
That's to the Compass drawn, aloft himself doth throw:

* See Poly-Olbion, Song the Sixth, Page 88, Line 23, &c.
Then

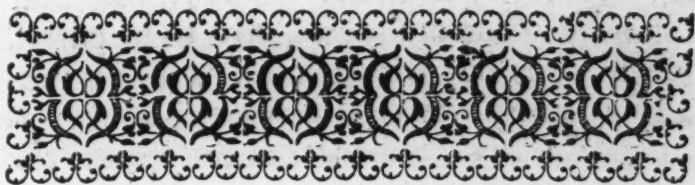
Then springing at his Height, as doth a little Wand,
 That bended end to end and flirted from the Hand
 Far off it self doth cast; so doth the *Salmon* vault,
 And if at first he fail, his second * *Summersaut*
 He instantly assays, and from his nimble Ring,
 Still yarking, never leaves, until himself he fling
 Above the streamful Top of the surrounded Heap.

Agreeable to this Description is that given by AUSONIUS.

*Nec te puniceo rutilantem viscere Salmo,
 Transferim, lata cujus vaga verbera caudæ
 Ad Gurgite Medio summas referuntur in Undas.*

* The Word used in tumbling when one casteth himself over and over.





C H A P. V.

Of the LUCE or PIKE.

AS the SALMON is the *King*,
 so is the PIKE called the
Tyrant of the *Fresh-Waters*,
 and is reckoned longer lived
 than any other Fish; but is
 very chargeable to his Own-
 ers, the chief of his Subsistence being
 upon the rest of his Fraternity, even those
 of his own kind: he will likewise eat ve-
 nymous Things, having, as is reported, an
 Antidote within him to expel the Poison.
 He is very voracious, and will bite at a
Dog, or at any other Creature that he sees
 in the Water, of which many Instances
 might be given; as he is bold, so he is also
 a very solitary Fish, never swimming in
 Company with others, but always alone.
 He is very medicinal, and used in the Cure

D

of

of several Distempers, 'tis observed that his Bite is venomous, and hard to be cured. He spawns but once a Year, which is usually about the End of *February*, or Beginning of *March*, when they go out of the River into some Ditch or Creek ; and all the Time the *Sparwner* is casting her Eggs, the *Milter* hovers over, but does not touch her. The best of them are those that breed in Rivers, and the *Male* much preferable to the *Female* ; their chief Season is from *May* to *Candlemas*.

His feeding is usually of *Fish*, or *Frogs*, (between whom there is a great Antipathy) and sometimes a Weed called *Pickrel-Weed*. There are four Ways of taking him.

1. With a *Ledger*, which is a Bait fixed to some certain Place ; it is best to have your *Ledger Bait* living, whether it be a *Fish* or *Frog* ; and that you may make them live the longer, take this Method : If it be of *Fish*, a *Roach*, or *Dace*, is I think most tempting, but a *Pearch* lives longest upon a Hook, having cut off his *Finn* on his Back, which may be done without hurting him, make such an Incision between the Head and the *Finn*, as you may put the arming Wier of your Hook into it, taking care to hurt the Fish as little as may be, and

and so carrying the Wier along his Back, unto, or near the Tail, between the Skin and the Body, draw out the Wier at another Incision near to his Tail: then tie him about with Thread, but no harder than just to hold him to the Wier, to avoid hurting the *Fish*; some use a Probe to open the Passage for the more easy Entrance of the Wier, but without so much Trouble, a little Experience will make you perfect in this Matter.

When your Bait is a Frog, (it must be a Water, not a Land Frog; some of these being venomous) chuse the yellowest you can get, for that the *Pike* ever likes best, and to preserve him long alive, manage him thus.

Put your Hook in at his Mouth, (this must be done between the Months of *May* and *August*, for after that Time his Mouth is closed up) and out at his Gills, then with a fine Needle and Silk sow the upper Part of his Leg with one Stitch only, to the arming Wier, or if you tie his Leg fast above the upper Joint it will do as well.

Having thus prepared your Ledger Bait, either with a *Fish* or *Frog*, fasten your Hook to a Line which must be about 14 Inches long, or 12 at least. Then fix the

Line to some Bough or other Rest, in the Midst of the Water, near the Hole where you guess the *Pike* to be, then wind up your Line on a forked Stick within half a Yard, or rather more; make a Notch at one End of it, to keep the Line from unraveling; when the *Pike* bites, the Line will slip out of the Notch, and he will have Length enough to go to his Hold and pouch the Bait: To prevent your Ledger Bait from being disturbed by Wind or other Accidents, which may drive it to the Shore side, hang a small leaden Plummet, Stone, or any Thing of Weight in a String, and cast it into the Water, with the forked Stick, to hang upon the Ground to be an Anchor to keep the forked Stick from moving out of the intended Place till the *Pike* come.

2d. Way, is taking them at Snap; for this Purpose your Rod must be at least 12 Foot in Length, very strong and taper, but not too heavy, with a substantial Loop at the End to put your Line to, which within a Foot must be as long as your Rod; when you fish for him, before you strike, let him run a little, and then strike contrary to the Way he takes; it is best to use a double Spring Hook, being much preferable to any other, and never fails: This Man-
ner

ner of Angling is most proper to be practised in *March*, for then the *Pike* is sick, and bites ill. Bait for the Snap thus; Make a Hole with the Point of your Hook or Probe in the Fishes side, (you intend for the Bait) as near the Middle as you can, put in your Armed Wier, and draw it out at the Fishes Mouth, then sow up his Mouth.

3d. Way is by *Snaring*, or *Haltering*; the chief Time of the Year for this is from *March* to *July*, and in the hottest Part of the Day, when the Fish appears, (as they all do) towards the Top of the Water: when you have spied a *Pike* fix your Eye stedfastly upon him without looking off, which will make him lie the stiller, and have your Snare with you ready fixed after this Manner; Take a strait, tough, taper Pole, also stiff and strong enough, but not too heavy, of about four Yards long, fasten to the smaller end a Piece of hard twisted Whip-Cord of about a Yard in Length, more or less, according to the Depth of Water, and the other End fasten to a well nealed brass Wier, made into a Noose or Snare, like a Hare Gin; or let it be all of nealed Wier and no Cord. Having opened the Noose wide enough to slip over his Head, without touching him, let it

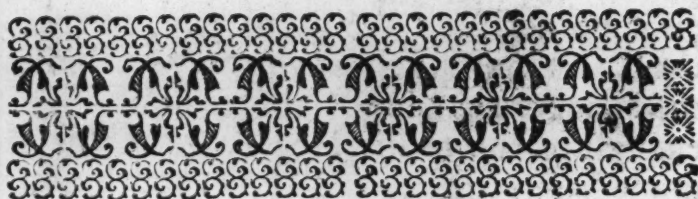
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down with your Pole into the Water, even with the *Pike*, two or three Yards before him, and guide it very gently towards his Head, fixing your Eye full upon him till you have put the Snare over his Head and Gill-Finns, but no farther, then immediately with a strong Jerk, upright, hoist him amain to Land. The keeping your Eye as much as you can on the *Pike*, will cause him to look on you the more, and mind your Gin the less; besure your Pole be not brittle or rotten. Thus you may also halter other Fish, as *Trouts*, *Eels*, *Carp*, and *Tench*.

4th. Way, is by *Trowling*, which is very pleasant; the Lines and other Tackle for this Purpose are now so accurately and exactly made, and so commonly sold, that I need not trouble you with a Description of them; 'tis best Angling after this Manner in a clear Water, and if possible on a windy Day. Some prefer a single before a double *Pike*-hook, baiting with a *Minnow*, as well to catch *Pearch* as *Pike*, by *Trowling*; when you are completely fitted with all Materials, and your Hook baited, cast your Fish up and down in such Places as you know the *Pike* frequents, letting him sink a considerable Depth before you pull

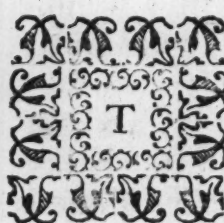
pull him up again ; when the *Pike* comes (if it be not sunk too deep) you may see the Water move, at least you may feel him ; then slack your Line, and give him length enough to run to his Hold, whither he'll immediately make, and there pouch and swallow the Bait ; thus let him lie till you see the Line move ; When you may certainly conclude, he hath swallowed it, and is ranging abroad for more ; then with the *Trawl*, wind up your Line till you think it is almost strait, and with a nimble Jerk hook him, and bring him pleasantly to Land.

The *Pike* loves a still, shady, and unfrequented Water, with a sandy, chalky, or Clay Bottom ; his best Biting Time is early in the Morning, and late in the Evening, in a clear Water and a gentle Gale. He takes all sorts of Baits except *Flies*, but the most principal are, large *Gudgeons*, *Roaches*, small *Daces*, large *Minnows*, *Loaches*, *Bull-heads*, *Bleaks* ; in *July* young *Frogs*, or *Salmon-Smelts*. Some use Fat *Bacon* in the Winter Months. A young *Trout*, *Jack* or *Pearch* are also good ; take a particular Care that all your Fish Baits are very fresh and sweet when you use them for him.



C H A P. VI.

Of the CARP.


THE CARP is a stately, and very subtle Fish, stiled the Fresh-Water Fox, and Queen of Rivers, he is originally of foreign Growth; Mr. MASCALL a *Sussex* Gentleman, having the Honour of first bringing them hither, about the Year 1524. *Ann. Reg.* 15 *Hen. VIII.* Dr. HEYLIN informs us that,

Reformation, Turkeys, Carps, Hops, and Beer,
Came all into England, in the same Year.

And as *Sussex* had the first, so does it at this Time abound with more *Carps* than any other County. They are observed to breed several Months in the Year, which most other Fish do not: This is the rather be-

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believed, because you shall seldom take a Male *Carp* without a *Milt*, or a Female without much *Sparwn*, especially all the Summer Season; they breed more naturally in Ponds than in running Waters, if they breed there at all; but the *River-Carp* is preferred to all others. He is very difficult to take, and there is a Necessity of exercising the Virtue of Patience, for I have known the best Anglers use their utmost Diligence 6 Hours in a Day, for a Week together, in attempting a *River-Carp* and not have a Bite: in some Ponds they are as hard to catch as in a River; that is, where they have Store of Feed, and the Water is of a clayish Colour; He is to be fished for early or late; (you cannot go to an extream in either) and in hot Weather, for he'll seldom bite in cold. Superstition sways some to believe the 10th Day of *April* very fatal for *Carps*.

He bites at Worms, or Paste, and of Worms I think the blewish Marsh, or Meadow Worm is best, but any other if not too big may do as well, and so may a green *Gentle*; And as for *Pastes* there are many sorts, but doubtless sweet ones are best; which the better to beguile him, should be thrown into the Water, some
Hours

Hours before you undertake your Trial of Skill with the Angle-Rod ; and if you throw in your *Paste* at several Times, in small Pellets, a Day or two before, you are the more likely to succeed ; or in a large Pond, that you may have the better Hopes by drawing them together, throw into a certain Place, either Grains, or Blood mixt with Cow-dung, or Bran ; or any Garbage, as Chickens Guts, or the like, with your small Pellets, throw in some also while you are Angling. Make the *Paste* thus :

Take the Flesh of a Rabbit, and Bean-Flower, mix these together with Sugar, or Honey, which is better, beat them up in a Mortar, or work it in your Hands into small Balls fit for Use ; temper it to such a stiff Substance that it may not wash off your Hook, neither let it be too hard : and if you mix with it Virgins-Wax and clarified-Honey, it will keep all the Year.

If you fish for him with *Gentles*, put a small Piece of scarlet Cloath upon your Hook, soaked in, or anointed with Oil of *Peter*, called by some Oyl of the Rock, and if two or three Days before, the *Gentles* are put into a Box or Horn anointed with Honey, and so hooked as to preserve them
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living, you are in a fair Way of taking this crafty Fish: but still as you are Angling chew a little white or brown Bread, and throw into the Pond about the Place where your Float swims. *Crumbs of white Bread and Honey worked into a Paste, is very good, and easily made.* There are many other Baits, but these with Diligence, and patient Watchfulness, will take a *Carp*, sooner than any I have ever practised: he is generally caught at Mid-Water; use a long Rod, and a Quill Float, keeping out of Sight; when you strike him, give him Play enough, otherwise he'll break all, being very strong, and a mighty Strugler. If a large *Carp* takes your Bait, he runs immediately to the farther Side of the River or Pond. He is leather-mouthed, and reckoned by all to be a long lived Fish, but his Age is variously determined, he is likewise medicinal in many Cases, and the Fat of him excites to Venery.

They are best in Season in *March* and *April*, their chief spawning Time is *May*. When a *Female Carp* goes to cast her Spawn 3 or 4 *Milters* follow her, and she dissembling a Coyness, they force her through Weeds and Flags, where she drops her Spawn, which sticks fast to the Weeds,
then

then the *Male* performs his Office, and all the Spawn somilted upon, in a short Time become living Fish; the *Spawner* being very much weakened by this Action, the *Milters* help her off from the Shallows and Weeds, by bearing her up on both Sides, and guarding her into the Deep: they begin to spawn at 3 Years old.

They are hardy and will live longer out of the Water than most other Fish; I shall conclude with a particular Observation upon this Head, as given by a late ingenious * Author, " *Carp*s will live out of the Water, only in the Air, as is manifest by the Experiment of their Way of fattening them in *Holland*, and which hath been practised here in *England*, viz. they hang them up in a Cellar, or some cool Place, in wet Mofs, in a small Net, with their Heads out, and feed them with white Bread soaked in Milk for many Days. This was told me (*adds our Author*) by a Man very curious, and of great Honour and Eminence, whose Word if I might name him no Body would question: And it being an Instance of

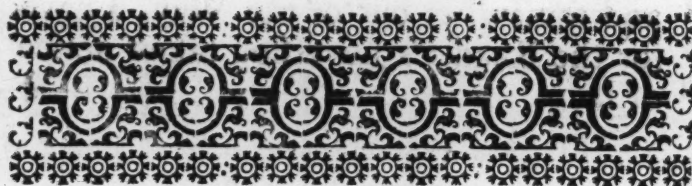
* *Mr. Derham's Physico-Theology, Page 7. Not. 5.*

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“ the Respiration of Fishes very singular
“ and somewhat out of the Way, I have
“ for the Reader’s Diversion taken notice
“ of it.

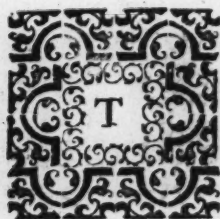


C H A P.



C H A P. VII.

Of the BREAM.



THE BREAM when at full Growth is a large and comely Fish; he will breed both in Rivers and Ponds, but takes most Delight in the latter, where if he likes the Water and Air, he grows very large, fat, and breeds exceedingly, in some Ponds so fast, as to over stock them, and starve the other Fish. He is in so high Estimation with the *French*, as to be the Occasion of a Proverb, for they say, *The Man that has Breems in his Pond, is able to make his Friends welcome.* This Fish very much resembles a *Carp*, being very broad, with a forked Tail, and his Scales set in excellent Order, he has large Eyes, a small sucking Mouth, two Sets of Teeth, and a lozing-like Bone

to

to help his grinding. The *Milter* is observed to have two large Milts, and the *Spawner* two large Bags of Spawn. The best parts of him are his Belly and Head.

'Tis said that *Breams* and *Roaches* will mix their Eggs, and milt together, and so there is in many Places a Bastard Race of *Breams*, which never come to be either large or good, but very numerous.

There are many Baits to take him, *viz.* Paste made of brown Bread and Honey; *Gentles*; the young *Wasp*-Brood; (not unlike *Gentles*, and should be hardened in an Oven, or dried on a Tile before the Fire) a *Worm* like a *Maggot*, which is found at Dock-roots, Flags, or Rushes in watry Places; or, he'll bite at a Grasshopper in *June* and *July*, or at several *Flies* under Water, found on Flags that grow near the Water-side. There are several other good Baits, but this following, communicated to me by an excellent Angler, I prefer to them all, either for a *Carp*, or *Bream*.

1. Take the largest Red-worm you can get, without a Knot. They are found in great Numbers in an Evening, in Garden Walks, or chalky Commons after a Shower of Rain, keep a Quantity of them by you in an earthen Pot, in clean *Moss*, well washed,

washed, picked, and squeezed as dry as possible, freshen the *Moss* every fourth Day for three Weeks or a Month together, then will your Bait be at the best.

2. Having prepared your Baits, get your Tackling ready after this manner; Take three long Angling Rods, three or four Silk, or Silk and Hair Lines, and as many large Swan, or Goose-Quill Floats. Then fasten small leaden Plummets to the lower Ends of your Lines, fasten also your link Hook to the Lead, and to the end of your Lines, let there be about a Foot or 10 Inches Space between the Lead and the Hook, but before the Lead be heavy enough to sink the Float, and not the Float to bear up the Lead. That Link of your Line next the Hook, may be smaller than the rest, if you dare venture for fear of taking the *Pike* or *Pearch*, who will certainly visit your Hooks till they be taken out (as I shall hereafter shew) before either *Carp* or *Bream* will come near to bite. When the *Worm* is well baited, it will crawl up and down, as far as the Lead will give leave, which much enticeth the Fish to bite without Suspicion.

3. Your Baits being thus ready, and your Tackling fitted, repair to the River, where

where; at 3 or 4 a Clock in a hot Summer Afternoon, you have seen them swim in Shoals, and which is easily discerned; watch their going out, and coming back to their Holes, for they return about those Hours, most of them seeking Food at the Bottom, yet one or two will lie on the Top of the Water, rolling and tumbling themselves, while the rest are under him at the Bottom, so you shall perceive him to keep Centinel; then observe, where he plays most, and stays longest, (which is commonly in the broadest and deepest Part of the River) and there at a clear Bottom, and a convenient landing Place, take one of your Angles, and sound the Bottom, about 8 or 10 Foot deep, two Yards from the Bank is best. Then consider, whether that Water will rise or fall by the next Morning, by reason of any Water-Mills near, and according to Discretion take the Depth of the Place, where you intend after to cast your Ground-Bait, and to fish to half an Inch; that the Lead lying on or near the Ground-Bait, the Top of the Float may only appear upright half an Inch above the Water. Thus having found and fitted for the Place, and Depth thereof, go home and prepare your Ground-Bait, as follows: E Take

Take a Peck of sweet gros-ground *Barley-Malt*, boil it in a Kettle, then strain it through a Bag into a Tub, and when the Bag and *Malt* is near cold, take it down to the Water-side about 8 or 9 a Clock in the Evening, and not before ; throw in two Parts of your Ground-Bait, squeezed hard between your Hands, it will presently sink to the Bottom, and take care that it lodge in the very Place where you intend to Angle ; if the Current run hard, or move a little, throw your *Malt* in Handfuls the higher up the Stream. You may squeeze the Malt so fast in Handfuls, that the Water will hardly part it with the Fall.

Your Ground thus baited, and Tackling fitted, leave the Bag with the rest of your Materials and Ground-Bait near the sporting Place all Night, and about 3 or 4 a Clock in the Morning, visit the Water-side, but not too near, for these Fish are very watchful.

Take gently one of your three Rods, bait the Hook, casting it over the Ground-Bait, and softly and secretly draw it to you, till the Lead rests about the Middle of the Ground-Bait. Then cast in a second Rod about a Yard above, and a third a
Yard

Yard below the first, fix the Rods in the Ground, but go so far from the Water-side, till you perceive nothing but the Top of the Floats, watching them very diligently ; when you have a Bite, you'll perceive the Float to sink suddenly into the Water ; yet run not too hastily to your Rods, till you see the Line go clear away ; then creep to the Water-side, and give as much Line as possible you can : If it be a *Carp* or *Bream*, they'll go to the farther Side of the River ; then strike gently, and hold your Rod at a Bent a little while, for if you both pull, you are sure to lose your Game ; either your Line, or Hook, or Hold will break ; and after you have overcome them, they'll make noble Sport, and are very shie to be landed. The *Carp* is more strong and mettlesome than the *Bream*. If *Pike* or *Pearch* breed in the same River, they'll bite first, and must be first taken. And for the most Part they are very large, and will repair to your Ground-Bait, not that they'll eat it, but will feed and sport themselves among the young Fry that gather about, and hover over the Bait.

The way of discerning and taking the *Pike*, if you mistrust your *Bream*-Hook,

is thus ; Take a small *Bleak*, *Roach* or *Gudgeon*, bait it and set it alive among your Rods, two Foot deep from the Cork, with a littlered Worm on the Point of the Hook, then take a few Crumbs of white Bread, or some of the Ground-Bait, and sprinkle it gently among your Rods. If the *Pike* be there, the little Fish will skip out of the Water, but the live-set Bait is sure to be taken. Thus continue your Sport from 4 in the Morning till 8, and if it be gloomy, and windy, they'll bite all Day, but that is too long to stand to your Rods at one Place, and may spoil your Evenings Diversion ; which should be thus prosecuted.

About 4 in the Afternoon repair to your baited Place, throw in one half of the Remainder of your Ground-Bait, standing off while the Fish are gathering together, and be absent for a small Time : then in with your three Rods as in the Morning, and you'll find excellent Sport till 8 in the Evening ; cast in the rest of your Ground-Bait, and by 4 the next Morning visit them again, for 4 Hours, which is the best Sport of all. They are in their Prime, from St. James Tide, till Bartholomew Tide, being fattest after their Summers Feeding.

Ob.

Observe lastly, That after 3 or 4 Days fishing, your Game will be very shie, and wary ; and you'll hardly get a Bite or two at a Baiting ; then desist for 2 or 3 Days ; and (in the Place where you last baited, and intend to renew your Bait) *Take a Turf of short Grass, about the Bigness of a round Trencher, and with a Needle and green Thread, fasten one by one as many little red Worms as will almost cover the Turf ; make a Hole in the Middle of a round Board, placing the Turf thereon, then put a Cord through, and tying it to a Pole, let it down to the Bottom of the Water for the Fish to feed upon without Disturbance for about 3 or 4 Days ; and after that Time, when you have drawn it away, you'll find Sport, almost beyond your Expectation.*





C H A P. VIII.

Of the TENCH.

THE TENCH, the Phyfician of Fifhes, is obferved to love Ponds better than Rivers, and to prefer Pits to either ; yet Mr. CAMDEN takes notice of the River *Stower* in *Dorfetfhire*, that abounds with *Tenches*, but doubtlefs they retire to the moft deep and quiet Places in it.

This Fifh is leather-mouthed, has very large Finns, fmall and fmooth Scales, a red Circle about his Eyes, which are big and of a Gold Colour ; from each Angle of his Mouth there hangs down a little Barb, in his Head are two little Stones, of which great ufe is made by foreign Phyficians, he is likewife ufed in many Medicinal Cafes, but is not commended for wholefome Food. He

He is justly stiled the Physician of Fishes, to the *Pike* especially, who when either sick or hurt, is cured by the Touch of the *Tench*. And it is observed that the Tyrant *Pike* who devours all others, spares his Physician tho' ever so hungry.

This Fish that carries a natural Balsom in him to cure both himself and others, loves yet to feed in very foul Water, and among Weeds. I shall now proceed to give you some Directions how to catch him.

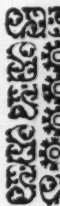
He will bite at a Paste made of brown Bread and Honey, or at a *Marsh*, or *Lob-Worm*, he inclines very much to any Paste with which Tar is mixt, and bites also at a smaller Worm, with his Head nipped off, and at a *Cod-Worm* put on the Hook before the small Worm; in the 3 hot Months (for he stirs not much in the 9 cold ones) he will take a *Flag-Worm*, or a green *Gentle*. His Times of biting are generally the same with the *Carp*; They spawn about the Beginning of *July*, live long out of the Water, and are in Season from the Beginning of *September* to the End of *May*.

Whether you Angle for them in Pond or River, bait the Ground after the same

Manner, with the same Ground-Baits,
and also fish for them with the same
Tackle, as you are before directed to do
for *Carps*.

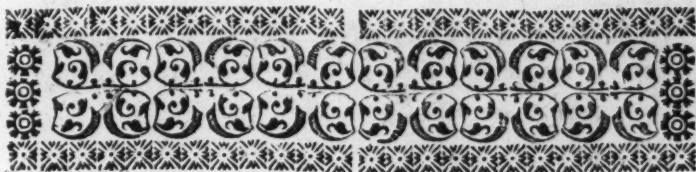


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C H A P. IX.

Of the PEARCH.

THE PEARCH is a very good and bold biting Fish ; He is one of the Fishes of Prey, carrying his Teeth in his Mouth, which is very large, he is very ravenous and a great Devourer of his Brethren, has a Hog Back, armed with sharp, stiff Bristles, and his Skin is covered over with thick, dry, hard Scales, having two Finns on his Back. The *Sea-Pearch* has but one Finn on his Back, and is esteemed a much better Fish.

He spawns but once a Year, which is about *February* or *March*, and is by Physicians held very nutritive: yet by many, to be hard of Digestion. He has a Stone in his Brain used Medicinally in many Cases, he is very wholesom, and in *Italy* accounted a great Dainty, even to a Proverb,

As

As wholesome as a Pearch of the Rhine. He is slow of Growth, his usual Size being 14 Inches, often less, tho' some have been seen two Foot long, he is deep bodied, and the Rendevouze of these Fish are to be found in a gentle Stream, of a midling Depth, they likewise frequent Creeks and Hollows near the Banks.

He will not bite at all Seasons of the Year, being very abstemious in Winter, except in the Middle of a warm Day, as other Fishes do, but in Summer he will bite all Day long, in cool, cloudy, or windy Weather; tho' his principal Hours are from 7 till 10 in the Forenoon, and from 2 in the Afternoon till Sun-set, or later.

There are several Baits for him, but he will bite as well at any of these three, as at any or all others whatsoever: a *Worm*, a *Minnow*, or a little *Frog*; And of *Worms*, the Dunghill-Worm, called the *Brandling*, I take to be best, being well scowred in Moss or Fennel. And if you rove for a *Pearch* with a *Minnow*, then it is best to be alive, sticking your Hook in his Back-Finn, or upper Lip, letting him swim up and down about Mid-Water, or a little lower, still keeping him about that Depth with a Cork, which ought not to be very small:

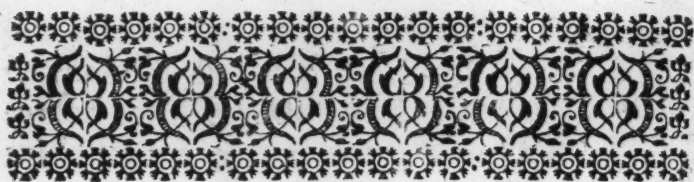
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Of the PEARCH. 59

small: the same way you are to fish for him with a Frog, putting your Hook thro' the Skin of his Leg, towards the upper Part of it. When the *Pearch* bites before give him Time enough before you pull him out of the Water.

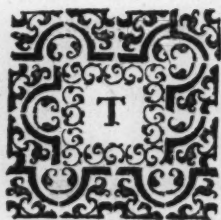


C H A P.



C H A P. X.

Of the EEL.



THE EEL is generally accounted a dainty Fish ; the Romans esteemed her the Helena of their Feasts, and some *The Queen of Pleasure*. But most Authors differ about their Breeding ; some affirm they breed by Generation ; and others, that they engender in the Mud, Putrefaction of the Earth, or the Dew which falls on the Water Side in *May* or *June*, being then condensed and enlivened by the influence of the Sun. 'Tis also reported when *Eels* grow old, they breed out of the Corruption of their own Age. But these Notions have been fully refuted by the best *Naturalists*, as shall be shown hereafter.

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There are four Sorts of *Eels*. 1. The silver *Eel*. 2. The green *Eel*. 3. The black *Eel*. 4. The *Eel* with red Finns, (seldom taken in this Nation :) of all which the black *Eel* is the worst. Sir FRANCIS BACON in his *History of Life and Death*, has determined their Period to about 10 Years, and yet mentions a tame *Lamprey* belonging to One of the *Roman* Emperors, which lived almost 60 Years: and that such useful and pleasant Observations were made of this *Lamprey*, that CRASSUS the Orator (who kept her) lamented her Death.

RANDELITIUS assures us, that River-*Eels* after having once tasted the Sea-Water, never return back, neither do they at any Time swim up the River they breed in, but always downwards; so that whatever Numbers are taken at Mills, it is no Prejudice to the River.

During the six cold Months of the Year *Eels* stir neither up nor down in the Rivers and Pools wherein they usually are, but get into the soft Earth or Mud, and there many of them bed themselves, and live without feeding upon any thing, not being able to endure the Severity of Winter. They seldom appear in the Day time unless the Water be mudded and raised a little by

by Rain ; but are most usually caught in the Night. They are in Season all the Year, and in their Prime in Winter, when, tho' they are so impatient of Cold, yet in the Summer they have been known to live 5 Days out of the Water.

There are several Baits to take the *Eel* : as, a *Lob* or *Garden-Worm*, a *Minnow*, the Gut of a *Hen*, *Chicken*, &c. a Piece of powdered Beef, and with almost any other Bait, for he is a greedy Fish ; but he may be caught especially with a very small *Lamprey*, which some call a *Pride*, and in the hot Months are to be found in great Quantities in the River *Thames*, and in many Mud-heaps of other Rivers.

The *Eel* is to be taken 4 Ways, 1. By laying Hooks, which you are to fasten to the Bank or Twigs of a Tree ; or, 2. By throwing a String with many Hooks at it, cross the Stream, baited as aforesaid, and a Clod, Plummet, or Stone, thrown into the River with this Line, that so you may in the Morning find it near to some fixt Place, and then take it up with a *Drag-Hook*, or otherwise. 3. By *Snigling*, which is best practised in a warm Day, when the Water is lowest, then take a well made small Hook, and tye it to a strong Line, or to a String

String about a Yard long, and in any Place where you think an *Eel* may hide or shelter her self, there with the help of a short Stick put in your Bait, leisurely, and as far as you can conveniently ; if an *Eel* be within Sight of it, he will instantly bite, and as certainly gorge it : then you may be sure of him, if you pull him not out of his hole too quickly, but by Degrees, for he lying doubly folded therein, will with the Help of his Tail break all, unless you give him Time to be wearied with pulling, and so draw him gently, and slowly out. 4. By *Bobbing* ; Take well scowred large Garden-Worms, and with a Needle run a strong Thread through them, from End to End ; String as many thus, as will wrap at least a dozen Times round your Hand, then tye 'em fast with the two Ends of the Thread, and fasten all to a small strong Cord, about 2 Yards long, and about 8 Inches above the Water ; tie also a Knot on the Cord, 6 or 8 Inches distant from the Worms, get a leaden Plummet of about 12 Ounces Weight, and bore a Hole in the Middle of it, through which the Cord may easily run, let the Plummet rest upon the Knot above the Worms, then fix the Cord to a long Pole. Being

Being thus prepared, Angle in a muddy Water, or the Deeps, or Sides of Streams, and you'll find the *Eels* tug strongly and eagerly; when you think they have swallowed the Worms, draw gently up, and when you have them near the Top of the Water, hoist them amain to Land, thus 3 or 4 may be taken at once. *Snigling*, and *Bobbing*, are proper only for *Eels*, no other Fish being to be caught after that Manner. *Eels* are sometimes taken by *Trowling*.

ALDROVANDUS and divers other Physicians, commend the *Eel* very much for Medicine, tho' not for Meat; for being extremely luscious, if eaten to Excess they are reckoned dangerous, and apt to surfeit, especially by the *Italians*, whose Proverbial Curse is, *Give Eels, and no Wine to your Enemy*.

There are many other Fish whose Shape and Nature are very much like the *Eel*, and frequent both the Sea and fresh Rivers, as the *Lamprel*, *Lamprey*, and *Lamperne*, also the mighty *Conger*, or *Sea-Eel*, these are differently esteemed for the Curiosity of their Taste.

The small *Conger-Eels* are often taken in the *Severne* between *Gloucester* and *Tewksbury*, and below *Warrington* in *Lancashire*;

cashire; but the River *Stowre* in *Dorsetshire*, *Ankam* in *Lincolnshire*, and *Irk* in *Lancashire*, bear away the Bell from their Neighbours, for producing the best *Eels*; and the *Lincolnshire* Rusticks use this old Rhime,

Ankam Eel *and* Witham Pike
In all England is none like.

Since the Generation of *Eels* has been the Occasion of so many learned Disputes, I will here give the Opinion of the late famous Mr. *RAY on this Subject, after having treated of the Generation of Man, “ I shall (says he) add another Observati-
“ on which is of some Moment, because
“ it takes away some Concessions of Natu-
“ ralists, that give Countenance to the A-
“ theists fictitious and ridiculous Account
“ of the first Production of Mankind, and
“ other Animals, viz. *That all sorts of In-*
“ *sects, yea and some Quadrupeds too, as Frogs*
“ *and Mice, (and Eels) are produced spon-*
“ *taneously.* My Observation and Affir-

* See, *The Wisdom of God manifested in the Works of the Creation*, Page 298, 302, 304, 305.

" mation is, that there is no such Thing
 " in Nature, as Equivocal or Spontaneous
 " Generation, but that all Animals, as
 " well small as great, not excluding the
 " vilest and most contemptible Insect, are
 " generated by Animal Parents of the
 " same *Species* with themselves; that noble
 " *Italian* Virtuoso, FRANCISCO REDI,
 " having experimented, that no putrified
 " Flesh (which one would think were the
 " most likely of any thing) will of it self,
 " if all Insects be carefully kept from it,
 " produce any: and Dr. SWAMMERDAM,
 " who hath been, to the best Purpose of a-
 " ny Man I know of, busied in searching
 " out and observing the Nature of all
 " Insects in general, in his *General Histo-*
 " *ry of Insects*, hath these Words, *We af-*
 " *firm, that there is not in all Nature any*
 " *accidental or spontaneous Generation, but*
 " *all come by Propagation; wherein Chance*
 " *hath not the least Part or Interest.* The
 " learned MALPIGHIUS, in his Treatise
 " of *Galls*, describes the hollow Instru-
 " ment, (*Terebra* he calls it, and we may
 " english it *Piercer*) wherewith many
 " Flies are provided, proceeding from the
 " Womb, with which they perforate the
 " Tegument of Leaves, Fruits, or Buds,
 " and

“ and through the Hollow of it inject
 “ their Eggs, into the Holes or Wounds,
 “ which they have made, where in Pro-
 “ cess of Time they are hatched and nou-
 “ rished. This he beheld one of these
 “ Insects doing, with his own Eyes, in
 “ the Bud of an Oak ; and when he had
 “ taken off the Insect, he found in the
 “ Leaf, very little and diaphanous Eggs,
 “ exactly like to those which yet remain-
 “ ed in the Tubes of the Fly’s Womb.

I shall leave the *Eel*, after having given
 Two other remarkable Passages concern-
 ing him. 1. As an Instance of the Saga-
 city, or Instinct, all Creatures have for
 their own Preservation, a learned * Au-
 thor reports, that “ in the Year 1125 the
 “ Winter being more cold than usually,
 “ *Eels* did get out of the Water into a
 “ Stack of Hay in a Meadow upon dry
 “ Ground, and there bedded themselves,
 “ but yet at last a Frost killed them. 2.
 Dr † PLOT observes, “ among Reptiles
 “ that have a strange Faculty to shift for
 “ Food, &c. may be reckoned *Eels*, which

* See Hakewil’s *Apol. L. 2. Chap. 7. § 2.* † *Hist. of Staffordshire, Chap. 7. § 32.*

“ although belonging to the Waters, can
 “ creep on the Land from Pond to Pond,
 “ &c. Mr. MOSELY of *Mosely*, saw them
 “ creep over the Meadows like so many
 “ Snakes, from Ditch to Ditch; which he
 “ thought was not only for bettering their
 “ Habitation, but also to catch Snails in
 “ the Grass. Mr. * DERHAM also remarks
 that, “ In Man, and most other Animals,
 “ the Heart hath the Guard of Bones.
 “ But in the *Lamprey*, which hath no
 “ Bones, (no not so much as a Back-bone)
 “ the † Heart is very strangely secured,
 “ and lies immured or capsulated in a Car-
 “ tilage, or gristly Substance, which in-
 “ cludes the Heart and its Auricle, as
 “ the Skull doth the Brain in other Animals.

* *Physico Theology*, Page 310. Not. 2. † *Powers Microsc.*
Obser. 22.





C H A P. XI.

Of the BARBEL.

THE BARBEL is so called, says GESNER, from his Barb or Wattels at his Mouth. He is a leather-mouthed Fish, large, of a fine Cast, handsome Shape, with small Scales, and placed after a most exact and curious Manner. He is not accounted the best Fish to eat, neither for his Wholesomeness nor his Taste : but the Male is reputed much better than the Female. He is able to live in the strongest Swifts of the Water, and in Summer frequents the shallowest and sharpest Streams, delighting to lurk under Weeds, and to feed on Gravel against a rising Ground, rutting and digging in the Sands with his Nose like a Hog, there nesting himself: yet sometimes he retires to deep and swift Bridges,

Flood-gates, or Weires, where he will nest himself amongst Piles, or in hollow Places, taking such Hold of Moss or Weeds, that be the Current never so strong, it is not able to force him from the Place that he contends for. This is his constant Custom in Summer, when he and most living Creatures sport themselves in the Sun, but at the Approach of Winter, he forsakes the swift Streams and shallow Waters, and by Degrees retires to those Parts of the River that are quiet and deeper; in which Places about *April*, they spawn, and are then at worst, but quickly grow to be in Season, they flock together like Sheep. The *Milter* and *Spawner* mutually labour to hide the Eggs in Holes which they dig in the Gravel, covering them over with Sand, to prevent them from being devoured by other Fish.

There are such Numbers of them in the River *Danube*, that *RANDELITIUS* says, in some Places of it, and in some Months of the Year, they may be taken out by handfuls, to the Quantity of 8 or 10 Load at a Time; he adds, they begin to be good in *May*, and continue so till the latter End of *July*, but it is found to be otherwise with us: Tho' we agree with him thus far, that

that the Spawn of a *Barbel* if it be not Poison, as he affirms, yet that it is very hurtful, and dangerous Meat, especially in the Month of *May*; which is so certain, that *GESNER* and *GLASIUS* declare, it had an ill Effect upon them, even to the endangering of their Lives,

The *Chub* and *Barbel* are reckoned the worst or courtest of Fresh-Water-Fish: But the *Barbel* affords an Angler rare Sport, being so lusty, as frequently to endanger the breaking of your Line, by running his Head forcibly towards any Covert, Hole, or Bank: Then striking at the Line, to break it off with his Tail (as *PLUTARCH* observes, in his Treatise *De Industria Animalium*) he is also so cunning to nibble and suck off your Worm close to the Hook, and will yet avoid letting it come into his Mouth.

He is likewise very curious in his Baits, they must be clean and sweet; your Worms well scowred, not kept in sour and musty Moss, for he is a nice Feeder; and at a well scowred *Lab-Worm*, he will bite as boldly as at any Bait, especially, if a Night or two before you fish for him, you bait the Places where you intend to Angle, with large Worms cut into Pieces:

Neither can you over-bait the Place, nor fish too early or too late for him. *Gentles* not too much scowred but green, are an excellent Bait for him; and so is Cheese, if not too hard, but kept a Day or two in a wet linnen Rag, to make it tough; with this you may also bait the Water, and if the Cheese were laid in clarified Honey an Hour or two before used, you would be still the likelier to catch Store of Fish: some have used to cut the Cheese into thin Pieces, toasted it, and then tied it on the Hook with fine Silk. Others esteem Sheeps Tallow and soft Cheese beaten or worked into a Paste, to be choicely good in *August*, and I believe it: but doubtless the *Lob-Worm*, *Gentle*, or *Cheese*, ordered as I have before directed, are sufficient Baits, and will serve in any Month; tho' I commend that Angler who tries Experiments, and is Industrious to improve the Art.

Lastly, when you fish for the *Barbel*, use a long Rod and a Line of good Strength, for tho' you will find him difficult to deal with, yet when once struck, he seldom or never breaks his Hold. He bites early, from Sun-rise till 10 a Clock in the Morning; and from 4 in the Evening, till Sun-set,

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Of the BARBEL.

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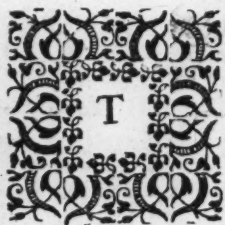
set, sometimes later. Their principal biting Months, are from the Middle of *May*, till the End of *August*.



C H A P.



C H A P. XII.

Of the GUDGEON, RUFFE, (or POPE)
and BLEAK.

THE GUDGEON is justly reputed a Fish of excellent Taste, very wholesome, and nourishing : He is Leather mouthed, of a fine Shape, a Silver Colour, beautifully adorned with black Spots both on his Body and Tail, breeds 2 or 3 Times in the Year. First, at the Beginning of *May*, but always in Summer. The whitest are best.

The *Germans* call him *Groundling*, from his Feeding on the Ground, where he feasts himself in sharp Streams, and on the Gravel : He and the *Barbel* both feed so, not hunting at any Time for Flies, as most other Fishes do. He is an admirable Fish to enter a young Angler, being easily taken

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Of the GUDGEON. 75

ken with a small *Red-Worm* on or near the Ground. They are usually scattered up and down in the Shallows of every River, in the Heat of Summer: But in *Autumn*, when the Weeds begin to grow four or rot, and the Weather cold, they keep together, getting into the deeper Parts of the Water: And if you Angle for him with a Float or Cork, your Hook must always touch the Ground. But many will fish for the *Gudgeon* by Hand, with a running Line upon the Ground without a Cork, and it is an excellent Way, if you have a gentle Rod, and as gentle a Hand. He bites all Day long from *March* till *Michaelmas*, but will not bite when very cold, nor for some Time after his spawning, nor immediately after a Shower or Land-Flood: He bites well in gloomy, warm, or hot sun-shiny Weather; they'll seldom bite before Sun-rise, or after Sun-set; but commonly an Hour after Sun-rise, and cease an Hour before Sun-set; fearing least they should be devoured by great Fish, who are then ranging for Food.

The *RUFFE* or *POPE*, is a Fish not known to be in some Rivers; much like the *Pearch* for his Shape, esteemed better, being very good, and no Fish of a pleasan-
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ter Taste. He will not grow to be bigger than a *Gudgeon*; he is a greedy Biter, therefore proper for the young *Anglers* Exercise. They lie Abundance of them together in a reserved Place, where the Water is deep, and runs quietly, and when the young Sportsman has found out their Haunt, he may catch 40 or 50, or sometimes double that Number at a Standing.

You must Angle for him, with a small *Red-Worm*, and baiting the Ground with Earth is an excellent Method. He takes the same Bait, bites at the same Time, and is to be taken after the same Manner with the *Pearch*, for which Fish, and the *Ruffe*, the River *Tare* that runs by *Norwich* is very famous.

The *Ruffe* is of a brown Colour, duskyish above, but a palish Yellow beneath, marked by the Jaws with a double Course of half Circles, the upper Part of the Eye, is of a dark brown, and the lower, somewhat yellowish, the Ball black; all the Body is rough, covered with sharp and prickly Finns, which bristle up stiff when he is angry, but when appeased they fall flat again: There is a Line goes along the Back, he is bespotted over the Tail and Finns with black Spots. This Fish is much com-

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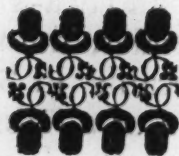
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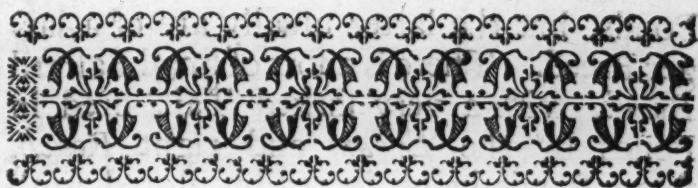
commended for Wholesomeness, and eating tender and short.

The BLEAK, or Fresh-Water-Sprat, is a Fish ever in Motion, and therefore called by some the *River-Swallow*; for as the *Swallow* is observed in Summer Evenings to be in constant Motion, making short and quick Turns when upon the Wing, catching Flies in the Air, so does the *Bleak* at the Top of the Water. AUSONIUS would have his Name derived from his whitish Colour: His Back is of a pleasant Sad, or Sea-Water-green, his Belly white and shining as the Mountains Snow. The *Bleak*, tho' by some neglected, yet ought to be much valued, but we want *Allamot* Salt, and the Skill which the *Italians* have of turning them into *Anchovies*. There are both River and Sea-*Bleaks*, the Flesh of the first is tender, but yet not reckoned wholesome, because in Summer they go mad, by reason of a Worm in their Stomachs, but the latter is a good Fish, and a very eager Biter. The *Variatæ* or Sea-*Bleak* changes his Colour with every Light and Object, and is therefore called the Sea-*Camelion*, but his Flesh is firm and wholesome, and as good as any *Carp*.

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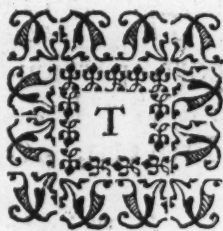
The *Bleak* may be caught at Mid-Water, or Top, with a *Pater-Noster* Line, *i. e.* Six or Eight very small Hooks tied along the Line, one half a Foot above the other : I have seen 5 taken thus at a Time, and the Bait has been Gentles, than which none is better ; he may also be taken with a very small fine artificial *Dub-Fly*, of a sad brown Colour, and the Hook answerable : There is no better Sport in a Summer Evening than whipping for *Bleak* in a Boat, or on a Bank in the swift Water, with a Hazel Top about 5 or 6 Foot long, and a Line twice the Length of the Rod.





C H A P. XIII.

Of ROACH and DACE and of some Peculiar BAITs.



THE ROACH is so called from *Rutilus*, signifying red Finns. He is a Fish of no great Reputation for his nice Taste, but his Spawn is accounted much better than any other

Part of him. He is Leather Mouthed, having a kind of Saw-like Teeth in his Throat. As the *Carp* is stiled the *Water-Fox*, for his Cunning, so the *Roach* is called the *Water-Sheep* for his Simplicity. It is observed that the *Roach* and *Dace* recover Strength, and grow in Season a Fortnight after Spawning, the *Barbel* and *Chub* in a Month, the *Trout* in four Months, and the *Salmon* in the like Time, if he gets into the Sea, and after into Fresh-Water.

Ri-

River *Roaches* are preferred to those in Ponds, but the latter usually are of a larger Breed. There is a sort of small Bastard *Roach*, with a very forked Tail, bred in Ponds by the *Bream* and right *Roach*, some Ponds being incredibly stored with them; these are called *Ruds*, differing from the true *Roach*, as the *Herring* from the *Pilchard*. This bastard Breed of *Roach* are now scattered in many Rivers, but I think not in the *Thames*, which I believe affords the largest and fattest in this Nation, especially below *London-Bridge*. The *Roach* makes the Angler excellent Sport, particularly the large ones, they are a very healthy Fish, from whence the Proverb, *As sound as a Roach*.

The *Roach* is to be fished for in Winter with Paste or Gentles, in *April* with Worms or Cadis; in the very hot Weather with little white Snails, or with Flies under Water, for he seldom takes them at the Top, tho' the *Dace* will. In many of the hot Months, *Roaches* may also be caught thus: Take a *May*, or *Ant-Fly*, sink him with a little Lead to the Bottom near the Piles of a Bridge, or Posts of a Weir, or any deep Place where they lie quietly, then pull your Fly up very leisurely

and you'll find a *Roach* generally follow your Bait to the very Top of the Water, gazing and running at it with the utmost Eagerness. I have seen this often practised at *Windsor* and *Henley-Bridge*, and great Store of *Roach* taken, and sometimes a *Dace* or *Chub*; in *August* you may fish for them with a Paste made only of the Crumbs of the finest Manchet Bread; which must be so tempered between your Hands till it be both soft and tough; a very little Water, Labour, and clean Hands makes it a most excellent Paste; but when you fish with it, you must have a small Hook, a quick Eye, and a nimble Hand, or the Bait and Hook will be both lost. With this Paste you may take both the *Roach* and *Dace* or *Dare*, for they are much of a kind, as to Feeding, Cunning, Goodness, and usually in Size. They will bite at almost any Fly, but especially the *Ant-Fly*; concerning which, observe this Direction.

Take the blackish *Ant-Fly* out of the Ant-hill, where you'll find them from *June* to the Middle of *September*, gather them with both their Wings, put them into a Glass of about a Quart, but first put in a Handful or better of the moist Earth and

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Roots

Roots of Grasse, then put the Flies gently in, that they lose not their Wings, lay a Clod of Earth over it, and they will keep a Month alive, and be always ready for Use ; If you would have them keep longer, get a small Barrel of about 3 or 4 Gallons, wash it with Water and Honey, then having put in a Quantity of Earth and Grasse-Roots, put in your Flies and cover it, and they will live a quarter of a Year ; these in any Stream or clear Water are a sure Bait for *Roach*, *Dace*, or *Chub* : and your Rule must be, not to fish less than a Handful from the Bottom.

I shall next tell you a Winter Bait for the *Roach*, *Dace* or *Chub*. About *All-Hollantide*, if you follow the Plow when at work upon Heath, or sandy Ground, or Greenswards, you'll find a white Worm with a red Head, about the Bigness of two Maggots, 'Tis all soft and full of whitish Guts. A Worm that is in *Norfolk*, and some other Countries called a *Grub*, bred of the Spawn or Eggs of a *Beetle*, which she leaves in Holes that she digs in the Ground under Cow or Horse-Dung, there resting himself all Winter, and in *March* or *April* comes to be first a red, and then a black Beetle : Gather a thousand or two
of

of these, and put them with a Peck or two of their own Earth into a small Vessel, covering it close down to preserve them from the Cold and Frosts, and you may keep them all Winter, and kill Fish with them at any Time: And if you put some of them into a little Earth and Honey a Day before you use them, you'll find them an excellent Bait for *Bream* or *Carp*.

After this Manner you may also keep *Gentles* all Winter, which is a good Bait then, and much the better for being lively and tough: or you may breed and keep *Gentles* thus; Take a Piece of Beasts Liver, and with a cross Stick hang it in some Corner over a Barrel half full of dry Clay, and as the *Gentles* grow big, they'll fall into the Barrel and scower themselves, and be always ready for Use. *Gentles* may be so bred till after *Michaelmas*, but if you would keep them all the Year, get some dead Carrion, let it be Fly-blown, and when the *Gentles* begin to be alive and stir, then bury it, and them, in moist Earth, but as free from Frost as you can, these you may dig up at any Time when you intend to use them; they will last till *March*, and about that Time turn to Flies.

The following Baits are likewise very good, *viz.* 1. Take a Handful of Malt, wash it and rub it clean, and as free from Husks as you can, then drain it and put a small Quantity of fresh Water to it, setting it over the Fire to seeth, till it become soft; then drain it again, and take a sharp Knife, and with the Point turn up the sprout End of the Corn, taking off the back Part of the Husk, yet leaving a kind of inward Husk on, or else 'tis spoiled; then cut off a little of the sprouted End that the white may appear, and peel off the Husk on the cloven Side; cut off but a little of the other End, that so your Hook may enter, and if it be small and good, you'll find this an admirable Bait either for Winter or Summer, sometimes throwing a little of it into the Place where your Float swims.

2. To catch the *Roach* and *Dace*, a proper Bait is the young Brood of *Wasps* or *Bees*, if you dip their Heads in Blood, especially for *Bream*, if you bake or harden them and their Husks, on a Fire-Shovel, or in an Oven, after Bread is drawn. And so is also the thick Blood of Sheep dried on a Trencher, till you can cut it into such Pieces as will fit the Size of your Hook,

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Hook, a little Salt mixt with it is very good, and keeps it from growing black.

3. Get a Handful or two of the best and largest Wheat, boil it in a little Milk till it be soft, then fry it very leisurely with Honey and a little beaten Saffron dissolved in Milk. This is an excellent Bait, and good for any Fish, especially *Roach*, *Dace*, *Chub*, *Grayling*, and likewise for a *River Carp*, if the Ground be baited with it.

Lastly, you are to take Notice, that there are several Sorts of *Cadis* or *Cafe-Worms*, which are to be found in distinct Countries, and in many little Brooks relating to large Rivers, viz. 1. Called a *Piper*, whose Husk or Case is a Piece of Reed somewhat better than an Inch long, and about the Bigness of a Tobacco-Pipe; These Worms being kept 3 or 4 Days in a woollen Bag with Sand at the Bottom of it, and the Bag wetted once a Day, will in 3 or 4 Days turn yellow, and are very good to take the *Chub*, or indeed for any great Fish, for it is a large Bait. 2. There is a lesser *Cadis-Worm*, called a *Cock-Spur*, from its Shape, being sharp at one End, the dwelling Place of this little Creature is to be admired, being curiously made of small Husks, Gravel, and Slime. This

G 3 Worm,

Worm is a choice Bait for any Float-Fish, it is much less than the *Piper*, must be ordered after the same Manner, and may be so preserved a Fortnight or three Weeks.

3. *Cadis* is called a *Straw-Worm*, by some a *Ruff-Coat*, whose House is made of little Pieces of Bents, Rushes, Straws, and Water-Weeds, so knit together with condensed Slime, that they stick about her Case, not unlike the Bristles of a Hedge-Hog. These three *Cadis's* are commonly taken in the Beginning of Summer, and are good to catch any Kind of Fish with Float or otherwise.

To conclude, the next Observation, and which shows the Anglers nicest Skill, is to know these *Cadis-Worms*, also to what *Flies* every particular one turns, and how to use them in both Degrees. The several Sorts of them differ very much according to the Countries wherein they are produced, they are usually bred in little Rills or Ditches that run into bigger Rivers, and are therefore a more proper Bait for those Rivers than any other. They are a sure Bait for the *Trout*, thus managed : Take one or more of these large yellow *Cadis's*, pull off his Head, and with it pull out his black Gut, put the Body as little bruised
as

as is possible, on a very small Hook armed on with a Red Hair (which will shew like the *Cadis's* Head) also a little Piece of thin Lead, so placed upon the Shank of the Hook, that it may presently sink; then throw this Bait, which will look very yellow, into the *Trout's* Hole, letting it touch the Water before the Line, and he'll presently take it. This is best to be practised in the stillest Water.



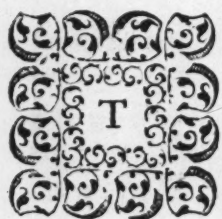
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C H A P.



C H A P. XIV.

*Of the MINNOW, (or PENK) LOACH,
BULL-HEAD, (or MILLERS-
THUMB) and STICKLEBACK.*



THESE little FISH are all without Scales, but for Excellency of Taste may be compared to any of the largest Size. They are usually full of Eggs or Spawn all the Summer Months ; for they breed often, and quickly arrive at their full Growth and Perfection. Their numerous and frequent Breeding is very necessary on Account of their being both a Prey and Baits for other Fish.

The MINNOW or PENK when in right Season, and not sick (which is only just after spawning) is of a Kind of dappled or waved Colour, his Sides inclining to a green-

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greenish and sky Colour, his Belly being Milk-white, and his Back almost black. He is a sharp Biter at a small Worm, and in hot Weather makes excellent Sport for young Anglers, Boys, or Women, that love the Recreation. He appears first in *March*, and continues till *Michaelmas*, then betakes himself to the Mud-Weeds, or Wood in Rivers, to secure himself from Flouds, and Fishes of Prey. His biting time is from an Hour after Sun-rising, till an Hour before Sun-set, his chief Baits are small Worms, he is taken either at Midwater, or near, or close to the Bottom: use a Float in Angling for him.

The LOACH is of a delicate Taste, and very wholesome, he breeds and feeds in little and clear swift Brooks or Rills; living upon the Gravel, and in the sharpest Streams; his Growth is not above a Finger's Length, and his Thickness proportionable. He resembles the *Eel* in shape, has a Beard, or Wattles, and Mouth like a *Barbel*, two Fins at his Sides, four at his Belly, and one at his Tail, is dappled with many black or brown Spots. This Fish is usually full of Eggs or Spawn, and is by GESNER and other learned Physicians, esteemed very nourishing and grateful both
to

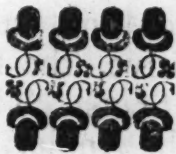
to the Palate and Stomach of sick Persons, he is to be fished for with a very small Worm, at the Bottom, for he seldom or never rises above the Gravel.

The BULL-HEAD OR MILLERS-THUMB, is of no pleasing Shape, and is by GESNER compared to the *Sea-Toad-Fish*, his Head is large and flat, very disproportionable to his Body, his Mouth wide, and usually gaping, he has no Teeth, but his Lips are rough like a File, he has two Finns near his Gills, which are roundish or crested, two under his Belly, two on his Back, one below the Vent, and the Tail Finn is round: he is speckled with whitish, blackish, and brownish Spots. They are full of Eggs or Spawn all the Summer, which swell their Vents almost into the Form of a Dug. They begin to spawn about *April*, they hide themselves in Holes, or among Stones in clear Water; and in very hot Days will lie a long time still, sunning themselves, and are easily seen upon any flat Stone, or on the Gravel, at which time the most unexpert Angler may take him with a small Worm. MATTHIOLUS commends him much more for his Taste and Nourishment, than for his Shape or Beauty.

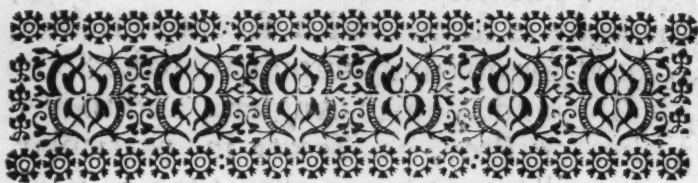
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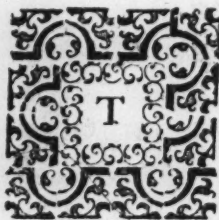
The STICKLEBACK is a very little Fish, his Body is fenced with several Prickles, is good for nothing but only to make Sport for Boys and Women-Anglers, and to feed Fishes of Prey, as *Trouts* in particular, who will bite at him rather than a *Penk*, if your Hook be rightly baited with him, for he may be so baited, as his Tail turning like the Sail of a Windmill, will make him turn quicker than the *Minnow* or *Penk*.



C H A P.



C H A P. XV.

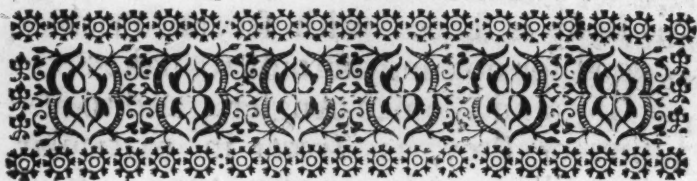
Of the FLOUNDER, CHAR, and GUINIAD.

THE FLOUNDER is a Sea-Fish, without Scales, which will wander very far into fresh Rivers, and there dwells and loses himself, thriving to a hand's breadth, and near twice as long, he is very wholesome and nutritive, the best are distinguished by red Spots. This Fish affords much Sport to the Angler, with any small Worm, but especially a little blewish Worm, found in Marsh Ground or Meadows, which should be well scowred; he is a crafty, tho' greedy Biter, and will nibble and suck at a Bait sometimes before he swallows it, if he perceive the Hook fly from it; therefore let your Bait be

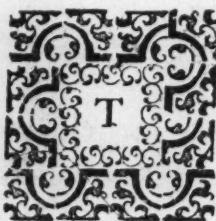
be always in motion, and it will make him more eager; he commonly frequents gravelly, sandy Bottoms, deep, gentle Streams, near the Bank, or at the End of a Stream, in a deep, still Place, or in a gentle Stream that is brackish, and sometimes in the deepest, stillest Place of the River, and near the Bank, but not so often as in a pretty swift, or rather gentle Stream. They bite all Day, from Sun-rise till Sunset, from *April* to the middle of *August*. When you angle for him use a Float, and let your Bait touch the Ground.

The CHAR is a Fish only to be found in *Winander-Mere*, in *Lancashire*; Mr. CAMDEN reckons this *Mere* the largest in the Kingdom, being 10 Miles in length, and as smooth at the Bottom as if it were paved with polished Marble; the *Char* is spotted like the *Trout*, is never above 15 or 16 Inches long, has scarce a Bone but on the Back, and is esteemed a very great Rarity.

The GUINIAD is likewise accounted a rare Fish; Mr. CAMDEN, &c. relate that the River *Dee* springs in *Merionethshire*, and as it passes towards *Chester*, runs through *Pemle-Mere*, which is a large Water: And it is observed, that tho' the
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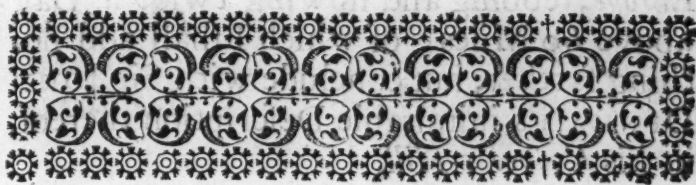
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River *Dee* abounds with *Salmon*, and
Pemble-Mere with the *Guiniad*, yet there
 is never any *Salmon* caught in the *Mere*,
 nor a *Guiniad* in the River.



CHAP.

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CH A P. XVI.

Of RIVERS, SPRINGS, &c.

THE Number of our Rivers
 in *England* is 325, but those
 of chiefest Note, are thus de-
 scribed by Dr. HEYLIN;

I. Is the THAMISIS OR
 THAMES, compounded of two Rivers,
Thame and *Ifis*; whereof the former ri-
 sing somewhat beyond *Thame* in *Bucking-*
hamshire, and the latter in *Cirencester* in
Gloucester-shire, compleat their happy Con-
 junction about *Dorchester* in *Oxford-shire*.
 From whence it spreads between *Berk-*
shire, *Buckinghamshire*, *Middlesex*, *Surry*,
Kent and *Essex*, joining the *Kentish Med-*
way, in the very Jaws of the Ocean;
 this glorious River hath more Benefit from
 the Violence of the Sea, than any other in
Europe,

Europe, ebbing and flowing twice a Day above 60 Miles ; of which I shall add nothing farther, but conclude with Sir JOHN DENHAM's inimitable Description thereof, in his *Cooper's-Hill*,

Thames, the most lov'd of all the Ocean's Sons,
By his old Sire, to his Embraces runs ;
Hasting to pay his Tribute to the Sea,
Like mortal Life to meet Eternity.
O could I flow like Thee, and make thy Stream
My great Example, as it is my Theme !
Tho' deep, yet clear, tho' gentle, yet not dull ;
Strong without Rage, without o'er-flowing full.

II. IS SABRINA, OR SEVERN: which hath its Beginning in *Plinlimmon-Hill* in *Montgomery-shire*, and ends 7 Miles from *Bristol*, washing in its Course the Walls of *Shrewsbury*, *Worcester*, *Gloucester*, and several other Places and Palaces of Note.

III. IS TRENT, so called, from its producing thirty kind of Fishes, or from its Reception of 30 lesser Rivers, his Fountain rises in *Staffordshire*, which gliding through the Counties of *Nottingham*, *Lincoln*, *Leicester*, and *York*, augmenteth the

the turbulent Current of *Humber*, the most violent Stream of all the Isle. The *Humber* is not, in Reality, a distinct River, having a Spring-Head of his own, but rather the Mouth or *Eustorium* of divers Rivers here confluent and meeting together, namely, the *Darwent*, and especially of *Ouse* and *Trent*; and (as the *Danow* having received into its Channel, the Rivers *Dravus*, *Savus*, *Tibijnus*, and divers others) changeth his Name into this of *Humberabus*, as the old Geographers call it.

IV. Is MEDWAY, a *Kentish* River, famous for harbouring the Royal Navy.

V. Is TWEED, on the North-East Bound of *England*, on whose Northern Banks is seated the strong and impregnable Town of *Berwick*.

VI. Is TINE, celebrated for the Town of *Newcastle*, and her inexhaustible Coal Pits. These and the rest of principal Note are excellently comprehended by MICHAEL DRAYTON, in one of his *Sonnets*.

The Floods Queen *Thames* for Ships and Swans is crown'd,
 And stately *Severn* for her Shore is prais'd,
 The crystal *Trent* for Fords and Fish renown'd,
 And *Avon's* Fame to *Albion's* Cliffs is rais'd.
Carlegion *Chester* vaunts her holy *Dee*,
York many Wonders of her *Ouse* can tell,
 The *Peke* her *Dove*, whose Banks so fertil be,
 And *Kent* will say her *Medway* doth excell.
Cotswool commends her *Isis* to the *Tame*,
 Our Northern Borders boast of *Tweed's* fair Flood,
 Our Western Parts extol their *Willies* Fame,
 And the old *Lea* brags of the *Danish* Blood.

If a Recital were to be made of the several Sorts of strange Fish usually taken in many Rivers that run into the Sea, it would not only be very surprizing, but almost incredible; yet I will venture to produce an Instance of One, dissected by Dr. WHARTON, a Gentleman of unquestionable Veracity, Learning and Experience: The Description of which follows in his own* Words, *He was almost a Yard broad, and twice that Length, his Mouth wide enough to receive the Head of a Man, his Stomach 7 or 8 Inches broad: He is of a slow Motion, and usually lies or lurks close in the*

* See Mrs. Walton's *Complete Angler*, Page 238.

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Mud, having a moveable String on his Head about a Span, or near a quarter of a Yard long, by the moving of which (which is his natural Bait) when he lies close and unseen in the Mud, he draws the small Fish close to him, then sucks them into his Mouth, and devours them.

This is not to be wondred at, for besides the Credit of the Relator, it is well known that many of these, and Fishes which are of the like and more usual Shapes, are very often taken in the Mouths of our Sea-Rivers, and on the Sea-Shore; and our learned * Antiquary confirms the same; he likewise adds, that the Number of *Herrings* taken near *Tarmouth* in *Norfolk*, and *Pilchers* in the West Country, is Matter of the greatest Astonishment.

In some Rivers *Trouts* grow to be of a very large Size, and strange Proportion, of which I shall give you the Dimensions of † Two, The 1st. was 45 Inches long, taken with a casting Net at *Newberry* in *Berkshire*. The 2^d. was 46 Inches long, caught at *Tyrrone* in *Ireland*, and presented

* See Camden's *Britannia*, Page 178, 186. † See Gainsford's *Glory of England*, Page 147.

to the Lord MOUNTJOY then Deputy, the Lord DAVERS, and Sir WILLIAM GODOLPHIN were at the eating of it, and Sir JOSIAS BODLEY had the Portraiture depicted in *Plano*.

It was lately affirmed by a Gentleman who lives at *Lewisham*, 5 Miles from *London*, that in the Year 1684 he made a *Fish-Pond*, fed by no River or Stream, but only by excellent Springs, into which he put 7 Brace of *Trouts* in *March*, the largest of them not above 7 Inches long; having no more, or any other Fish in the same Pond: And about a Year after cleaned the Pond, and took out three Brace, which were grown in that Time to be above 20 Inches long, and cut very red.

Mr. * MORTIMER observes, “ that
“ in *Fish-Ponds* *Carp* and *Tench* do the best
“ together of any Fish, all other Fish being
“ Devourers of their Spawn. No Fish
“ will thrive in a Pond where *Roach* or
“ *Gudgeons* are, except *Jacks*. And those
“ Fish that are in any Pond that are the
“ most in Number, and the strongest largest
“ Fish, will beat the other from their

* *Art of Husbandry*, Page 214, 215.

“ Food, and keep them very lean, if not
 “ starve them ; and therefore I am for
 “ keeping each Sort of Fish in a Pond by
 “ themselves, except you store a Pond
 “ with *Fish* of Prey, as *Jacks* or *Pearch*,
 “ and then you must put in *Roach*, *Dace*,
 “ *Gudgeons*, or other very increasing *Fish*
 “ for them to feed upon : but not a *Tench*,
 “ as most Authors propose. For a *Jack*
 “ or a *Pearch* will as soon, if not sooner,
 “ seize on a *Tench*, than any other *Fish*,
 “ as I found by Experience in a Pond of
 “ mine that a *Pike* got into by Chance.

The Washing of Hills, Commons, Sinks,
 &c. is the best to fatten all Sorts of Fish ;
 an Instance of which I met with from a
 Gentleman in *Nottinghamshire*, that had a
 small Pond at the Bottom of a Hill, upon
 the side whereof was a small Village, above
 which was a very good Spring that run
 thro’ the Middle of the Town, and met all
 the Sinks and other Drains belonging to
 the Houses, which it constantly (being
 a very large Spring) carried into the *Fish-*
Pond that was below the Hill, where my
 Friend assured me, that he had often put
 in *Carps* of 4 or 5 Inches long, which in a
 Years Time grew to the Length of 18 In-
 ches : This was confirmed to me by seve-

ral of his Neighbours, as well as himself; whereas the ordinary Growth of a *Carp* is not above 2 or 3 Inches at that Time. Only where such Floods are too violent, it may be good to carry some part of them on one Side of the Pond, that they may not carry away the Fish; *Carp* being very apt to float away with fresh Water.

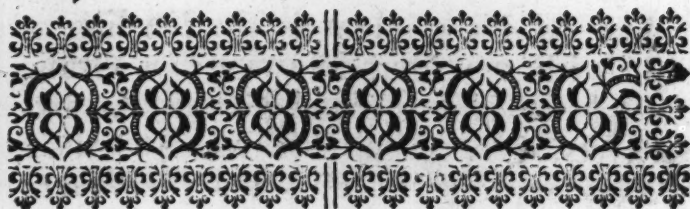
I shall close all with Two approved Experiments, communicated by the Reverend Dr. BRABANT of *Barkhamstead* in *Hertfordshire*. This Gentleman, who is very curious and well skilled in the Management of Fish, advises: 1. The making of *Hides* in *Fish-Ponds*, after the following Manner; Dig a square Hole at the Bottom of your Pond about 3 Foot deep, and at each Corner drive in a Stake, to remain a Foot above the level of the Pond, upon which 4 Stakes, cover this Hole or Hide, with a Barn-Door made of Beech, the Smell of which Wood the Fish love extreamly; These *Hides* preserve them from Heat in the Summer, Cold in the Winter, and from Thieves at all Times, for if an Attempt be made to drain your Pond with Nets, it is to no Purpose, the Stakes and Barn-Door of these *Hides* will tear them to Pieces; Three of these *Hides* should be made in a Pond of half an Acre.

The

The 2d. Experiment is the Feeding of Fish with the short Mowings of Grass, Bullocks or Sheeps Blood, Grains, Chickens Guts, &c. which Mr. MORTIMER likewise approves of, and says it *will much help to fatten the Fish, and to increase their Growth* *; especially Carp and Tench.

* See the Art of Husbandry, Page 216.





The LAWS OF ANGLING.

I. **N**ONE shall keep any Net, Angle, Leap, Pitche, or other Engine, for taking Fish (other than Makers and Sellers thereof, and Owners of a River or Fishery :) And Owners and Occupiers of Rivers and Fisheries, and such as they shall authorise, may seize and keep to their own Use any such Engine of such as shall be found fishing without the Consent of the Owner or Occupier of such River or Fishery. And any Person by Warrant under the Hand and Seal of a Justice of Peace, may search the Houses of Persons prohibited and suspected, and seize to their own Use, or destroy such Engines. 4 & 5 W. & M. Cap. 23.

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II. IF any Officer or Soldier, without Leave of the Lord of the Mannor, under his Hand and Seal, take or destroy *Fish*, or any Game, and shall be convicted thereof, upon Oath before a Justice of Peace, he shall forfeit, if an Officer 5 £. to be distributed among the Poor of the Parish. And every Officer commanding in chief, shall forfeit for every such Offence committed by any Soldier under his Command 10 s. to be distributed as aforesaid; and for Default of Payment within two Days after Conviction, and Demand by a Constable or Overseer, such Officers Commission is forfeited, and made null and void. 4 & 5 W. & M. Cap. 13. This Act being temporary was revived by several subsequent Acts: And lastly, it was anew enacted, 1 *An. Sess. 2. Cap. 16.* to continue till 25 *Mar. 1704.*

III. IF any inferiour Tradesman, Apprentice, or other dissolute Person, shall fish, &c. (unless in Company of the Master, qualified by Law) they shall be subject to the Penalties of this Act, and may be sued for Trespas for coming upon any Persons Ground; and the Plaintiff shall recover his Damages and full Costs. *Ibid.*

IV.

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IV. To take any Fish in any several Water or River, without the Consent of the Owner of the said Water. Penalty upon Conviction, by Consent of the Party, or Oath of one Witness, (within a Month) before a Justice of Peace: Recompence as the Justice shall appoint, not exceeding treble Damages, and pay to the Poor a Sum not exceeding 10 s. to be levied by Distress, and for Want of Distress the Offender to be committed to the House of Correction, not exceeding a Month, or give Bond with Sureties to the Party injur'd not to offend again in like Manner. 22 & 23 Car. II. Cap. 25.

V. AN Act was made in the First Year of Queen Elizabeth, Cap. 17. for the Preservation of the Spawn, Fry, and young Breed of *Eels, Salmons, Pikes, &c.* prohibiting the taking of such in any Streams, Brooks, Rivers fresh or salt, within this Realm, (except *Tweed, Usk, and Wye*) prohibiting also the taking of *Salmon* and *Trouts*, not being in Season, and under such a Length; directing also of what Dimensions the Meshes of the Nets used for such Fishing ought to be, under certain Penalties for the Offenders. For the Steward of a Leet, who neglects to give this Act

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Act in Charge, and for every Jury-man sworn at any Leet who shall wilfully conceal any such Offence, this Statute was made perpetual, 3 *Car. I. Cap. 4.* Another Statute was made to the like Purpose, but directed particularly to the Preservation of the Spawn, and Fry in the River *Severn*, in the Counties of *Worcester*, *Salop*, and *Gloucester*. 30 *Car. II. Cap. 9.* But these Statutes relating chiefly to the Preservation of *Salmons*, and other great Fish, and not directly provided against Poachers and Trespassers in particular Mannors, and therefore not so properly within the Design of this Treatise, I take no farther Notice of them here, but refer to the Statutes themselves.

VI. TRESPASSERS in Ponds shall give treble Damages to the Party grieved, suffer Three Years Imprisonment, be fined at the King's Pleasure, give Surety not to offend again in like kind, or abjure the Realm; and if fugitive shall be out-lawed. *Westm. 1. 3. E. 1. Cap. 20.*

VII. IN an Indictment for taking out of his Pond *quosdam Pisces vocat' Carp Fishes*; It is not necessary that the Numbers should
be

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be exprefs'd, (as in an Action it would be) for in Actions Damages are to be recovered, but upon Indictments the Party is to be fined at the Discretion of the Court, whether one Fish or many were taken, according to the Circumstances of the Fact, not according to the Number of the Fishes. 1 *Levinz.* 203. The King against *Wetwang*.

VIII. TAKING Fish in a River is no Felony, but taking Fish out of a Net, Trunk, or Pond, is Felony, because not at their natural Liberty. *Hale Pl. Cr. P.* 68. *Stanf. Pl. Cr.* 25. *b. Crom. Jurisd.* 167. *a.*

IX. IN Trespafs for taking and cutting his Nets and Oars, the Defendant justifies for that he was seized in Fee of a several Piscary, and found the Plaintiff with others trespassing. Judgment for the Plaintiff; for the Defendant cannot by such Colour cut the Nets and Oars, but he might have taken them and distrained them for Damage-Fesant. *Cro. Car.* 228. *Reynell and Champernon's Case*. Persons aggrieved may appeal to the next Quarter-Sessions, whose Order shall be final, unless the Title to any Land, Royalty, or Fishery, be therein
con-

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concerned. 22 & 23 *Car. II. Cap. 25. § 9.*
These Acts shall not abridge Fishermen
and their Servants, lawfully authorised
to fish in navigable Rivers with lawful
Nets.

X. No Servant shall be questioned for kil-
ling a Trespasser within his Master's Liber-
ty, who will not yeild, if not done out of for-
mer Malice, 21 *E. I.* Yet if the Trespas-
ser kills any such Servant it is Murder.
And so THOMAS Lord DACRE of the
South was hanged at Tyburn, 33 *Hen. VIII.*
being found guilty by his Peers for trespas-
sing in the Night-Time in anothers Park,
where Murder was committed. *Moor's*
Rep. f. 86. Stow's Ann. 582. Dugd. Bar.
Eng. 2d. Vol. 244.

A LICENCE and *Deputation* granted by a Lord of a *Mannor* and Owner of a *FISHERY* to one to fish within the same, and also to seize, &c.

TO all to whom these Presents shall come,
 I A. B. of C. in the County of D. Esq;
 Lord of the Mannor of E. in the said County,
 and of the Royalty or Liberty of Free Fishing
 in the River of F. within the said Mannor,
 send greeting. Know ye, That I the said A.
 B. for divers good Causes and Considerations
 me thereunto moving, have given and granted,
 and by these Presents do give and grant,
 unto my trusty and well-beloved Friend G. H.
 and his Assigns, full Power, absolute Authority,
 free Liberty and Licence, to fish from
 Time to Time, and at all Times hereafter,
 at the Will and Pleasure of him the
 said G. H. and his Assigns, for and during
 the Term of — from the Date hereof,
 within the said River of F. in as free, full,
 large, ample and beneficial Manner, as I my
 self may or can do in any Respect whatsoever,
 without any Manner of Denial, Hindrance,
 Molestation, Interruption, or Disturbance
 of me the said A. B. or by or through any
 Act or Acts done by me the said A. B. or
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III

Privy or Procurement, or of my Heirs, Executors, Administrators or Assigns, or of any Person or Persons lawfully claiming, or which hereafter shall or may claim under me, them, or any of them, during the Term

aforesaid *. And moreover, I the said A. B. do hereby, for me, my Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, covenant, promise, grant and agree (so far

* Here a Licence only may end, but if it be also a Deputation and Authority to seize, &c. it continues as follows.

as by Law I can or may) to and with the said G. H. and his Assigns, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said G. H. and his Assigns from Time to Time, and at all Times hereafter, during the said Term

(as often as Occasion shall require) to seize, detain and keep to his or their own Use or Uses, or otherwise to destroy (as prohibited to be kept by Persons unqualified by Law) as well all and every the Fishing-Nets, Angles, Leaps, Pitches, or other Instruments or Engines for Destruction of Fish, of any Person or Persons whatsoever, that shall at any Time or Times hereafter be found fishing within the said River of F, without any Licence or Consent, of the said G. H. first had or obtain'd for the doing thereof. In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my Hand and Seal, this ——— Day of ——— in the Year, &c.

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